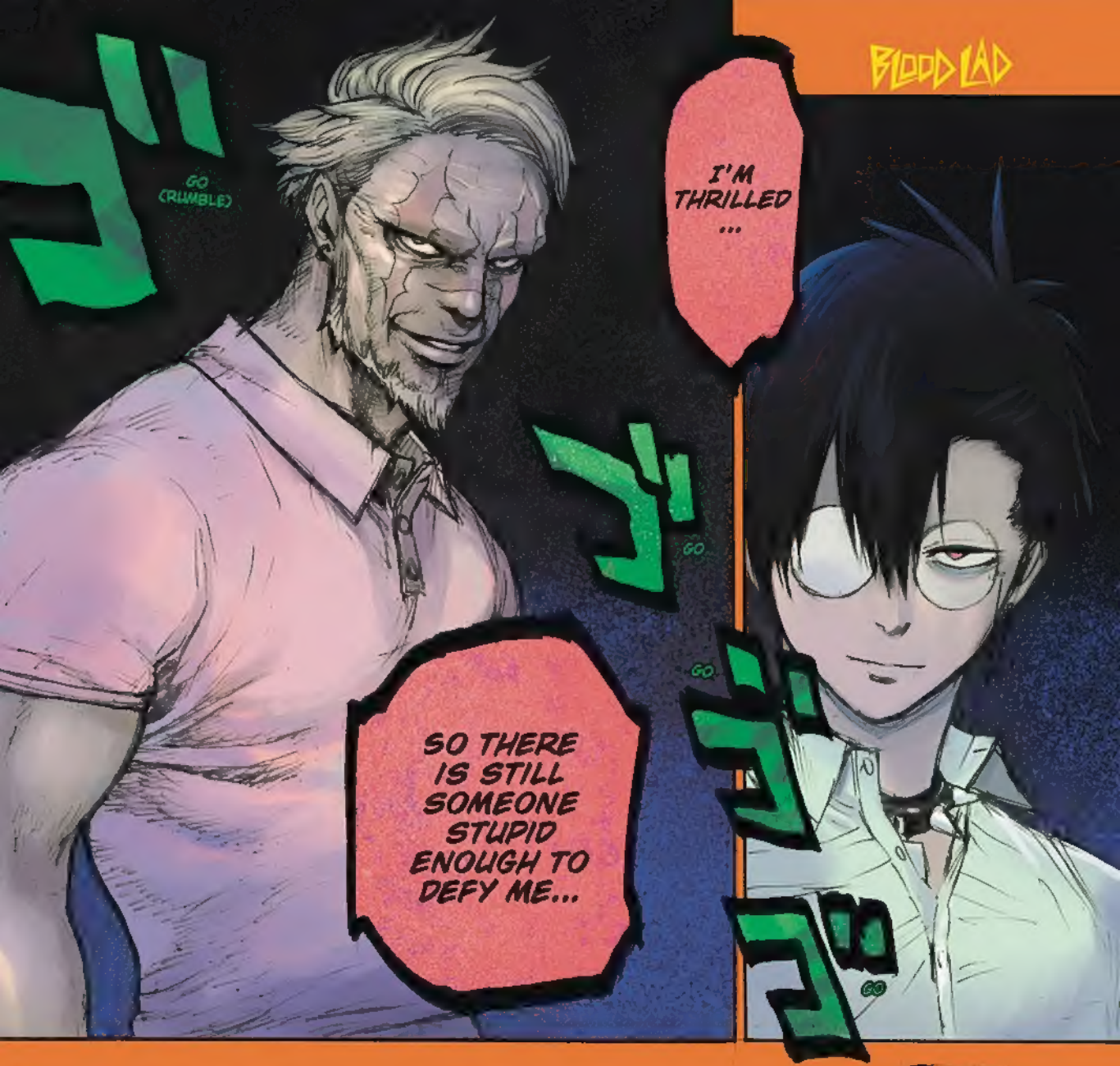
YUUKI KODAMA
BLOOD LAD


GO (RUMBLE)
I'M THRILLED ...
GO
GO
GO
SO THERE IS STILL SOMEONE STUPID ENOUGH TO DEFY ME...

SO, BRAZ, WHO IS IT YOU WANT ON THE THRONE?
BUT FROM THE WAY YOU'RE TALKIN', IT DOESN'T QUITE SOUND LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTS THE THRONE...

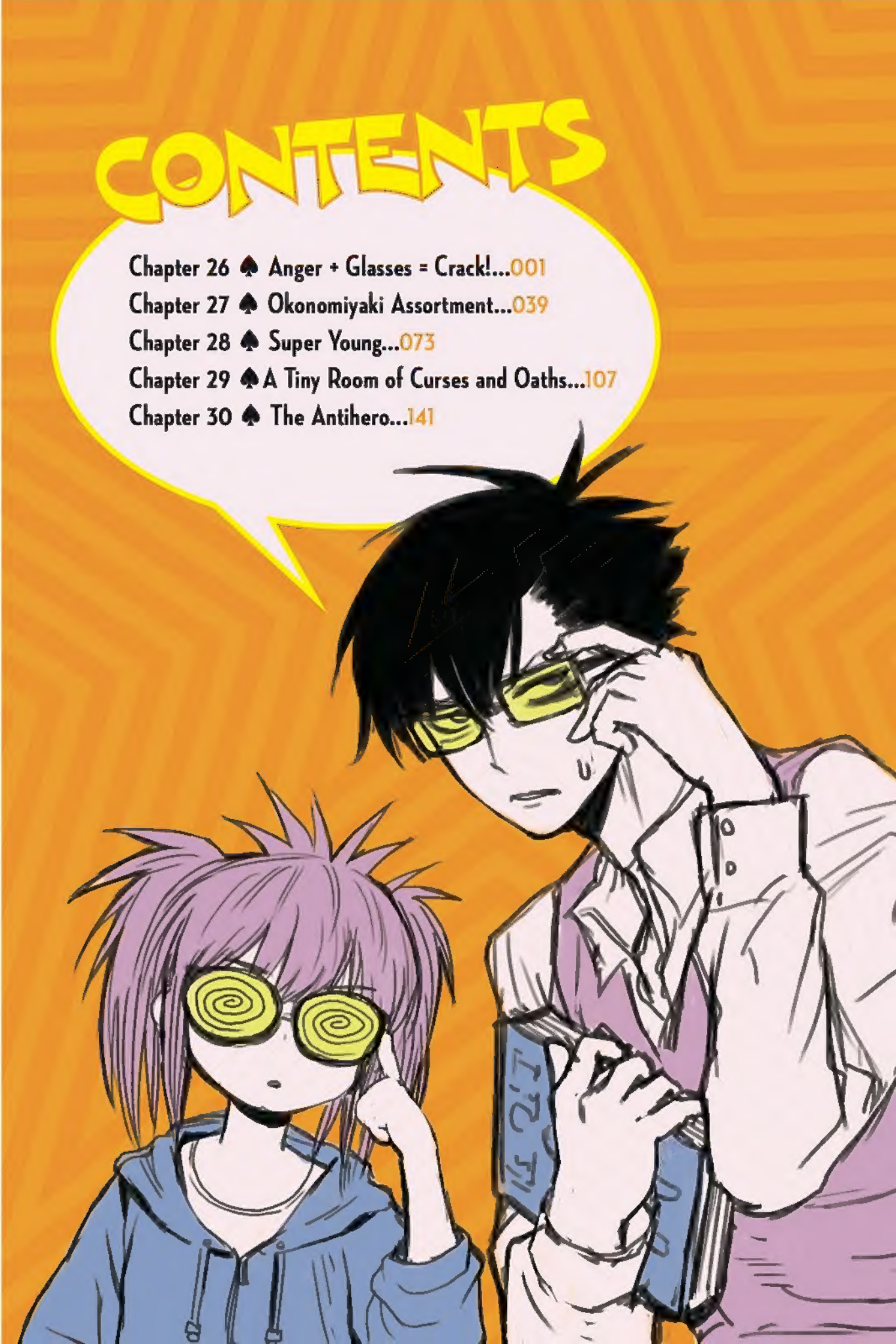
BLOOD LAD

CHAPTER 26 ♠ ANGER + GLASSES = CRACK!

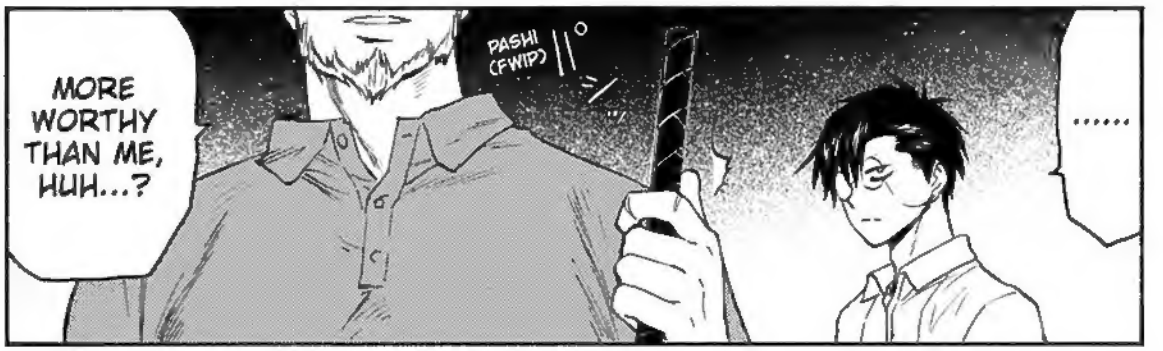
BLOOD LAD
CHAPTER 26 ♠ ANGER + GLASSES = CRACK!

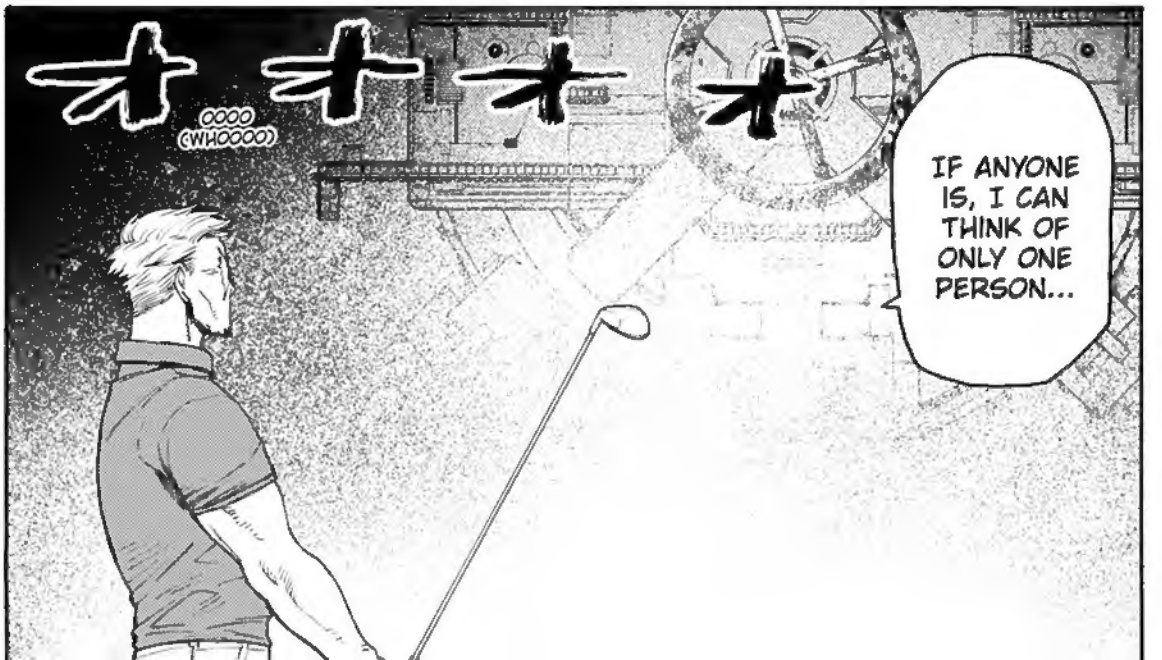
CONTENTS

Chapter 26 ♠ Anger + Glasses = Crack!...001
Chapter 27 ♠ Okonomiyaki Assortment...039
Chapter 28 ♠ Super Young...073
Chapter 29 ♠ A Tiny Room of Curses and Oaths...107
Chapter 30 ♠ The Antihero...141



WHAT DO YOU FIND SO AMUSING?
BWA HA HA HA HA!
WELL, OBVIOUSLY...
...HE'S SOMEONE MORE WORTHY OF THE THRONE THAN YOU ARE.
WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY!!
BUT OF COURSE!

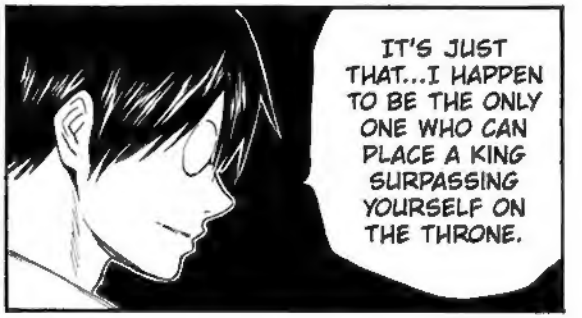

MORE WORTHY THAN ME, HUH...?
PASHI (FWIP)
.....

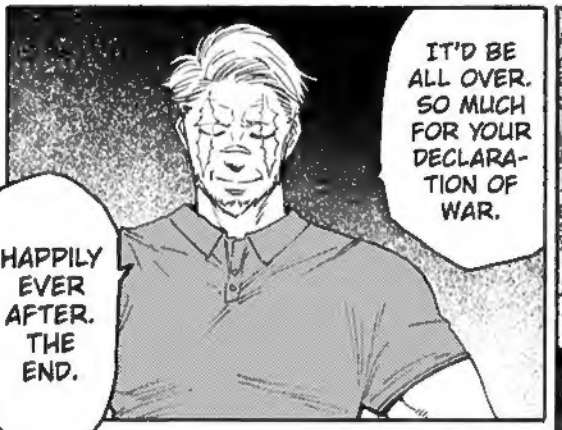

OOOO (WHOOOO)
IF ANYONE IS, I CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE PERSON...

DO UNTO OTHERS, GENIUS.
I AIN'T TELLIN' YOU.
.....
AND THAT IS...?
SU (WSH)
GA (WHACK)
SO...
OOO (WHOOO)
NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN DECLARING WAR...
...I GUESS IT'S TIME TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU.

CONSIDERING WHAT I'VE DONE, I SUPPOSE A DEATH SENTENCE IS INEVITABLE.
OF COURSE NOT...
YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D JUST LET YOU OFF THE HOOK FOR MAKING MY GUY INTO MEATLOAF, DIDJA?

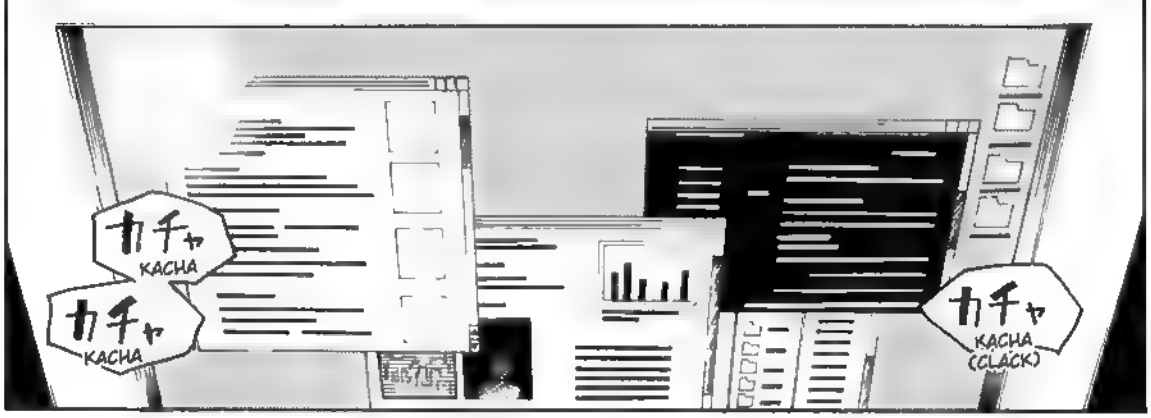
OH, C'MON. DID YOU SERIOUSLY THINK TELLIN' ME THAT WOULD LET YOU LIVE?

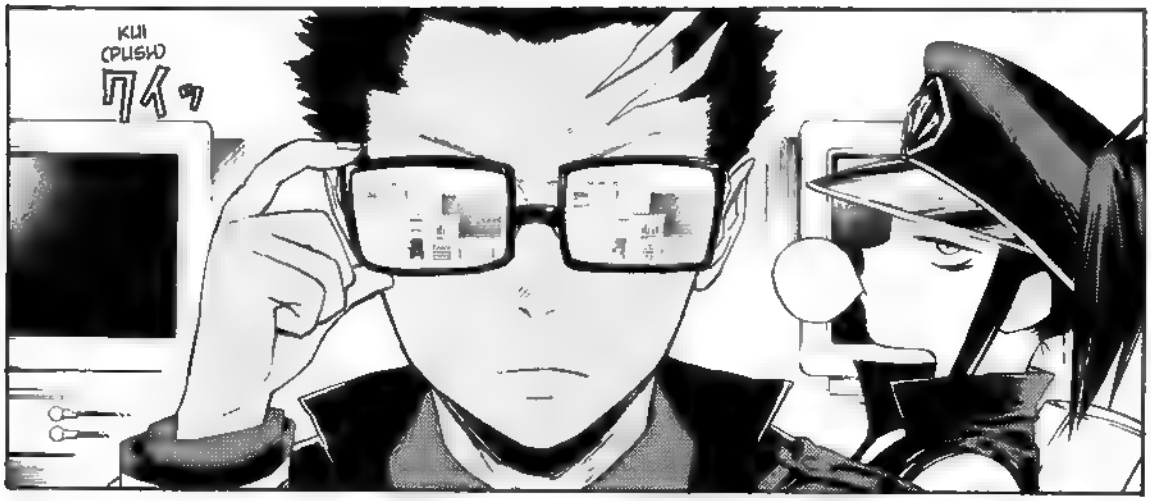

IT'S JUST THAT...I HAPPEN TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PLACE A KING SURPASSING YOURSELF ON THE THRONE.


IT'D BE ALL OVER. SO MUCH FOR YOUR DECLARATION OF WAR.
HAPPILY EVER AFTER. THE END.

.....
AIN'T THAT RIGHT?

JUST THE OPPOSITE, AIN'T IT? YOU'RE BASICALLY TELLING ME...
...IF I END YOU HERE AND NOW, KNOCK YOUR HEAD CLEAR OVER TO THAT DOOR...
...THEN THERE WON'T BE NOBODY COMIN' FOR MY THRONE.

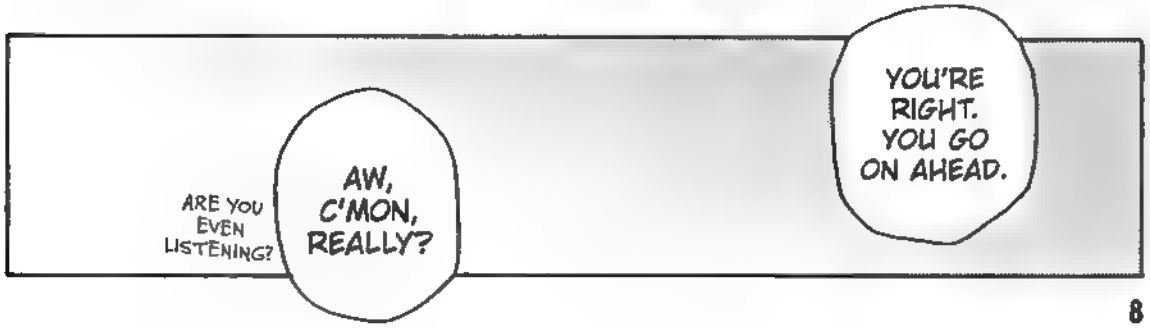

カチャ
KACHA
カチャ
KACHA
カチャ
KACHA
(CLACK)


KUI
(PUSH)
クイッ

PLEASE DON'T TALK TO ME RIGHT NOW.
KATA
(TAP)
KATA カ
カ タ
タ カ
KATA タ

YOU SAID YOU'D ONLY BE A MINUTE. YOU'VE BEEN ON THERE, LIKE, FOREVER.
WE GOTTA GO PICK UP MR. NICE GLASSES SOON, OR THERE'LL BE TROUBLE.

SURE IS SOMETHIN' THAT YOU'RE GOOD WITH COMPUTERS, GOYLE-SAN.
IS IT ANY FUN?
クルッ
KURU
(SPIN)
クルッ
KURU

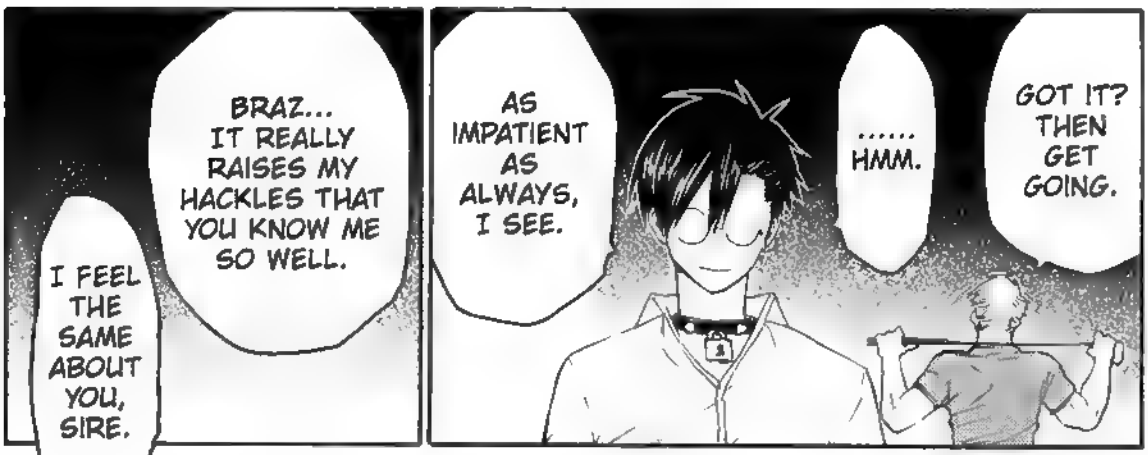

YOU'RE RIGHT. YOU GO ON AHEAD.
AW, C'MON, REALLY?
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?

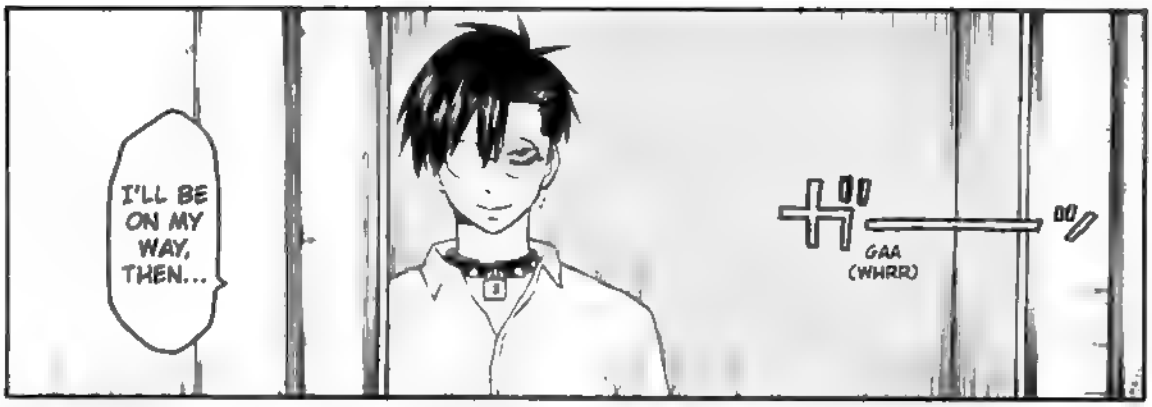
...THAT HE WON'T COME OUT ALIVE.
.....BUT IT'S QUITE LIKELY...
SO CAN YOU COME ON OVER WHEN YOU FINISH YOUR RESEARCH OR WHATEVER THAT "HACKING" STUFF IS.
WELL, WHEN HE COMES OUT, I'LL PUT HIM INTO CUSTODY RIGHT AND PROPER.
SURE.
...THERE ARE REAMS OF OVERWHELMINGLY INCRIMINATING DETAILS, EVEN ATTACK PLANS...
IN THE PHONE RECORDS AND OBSERVATIONAL DATA ON THAT MAN PANTOMIME...
...WHY WOULD HE SHOW UP IF HE KNEW HE'D GET KILLED?
HE'S OUT OF HIS MIND.....
AND PRESENTING THAT DATA SO BLATANTLY ALONG WITH THE FILE ON APPREHENDING PAPRADON AKIM...
BRAZ MUST HAVE BEEN AWARE OF IT.....BUT THEN...
.....BUT WHY DID HE DO IT?
SURELY THAT'S WHY THE KING SUMMONED HIM...

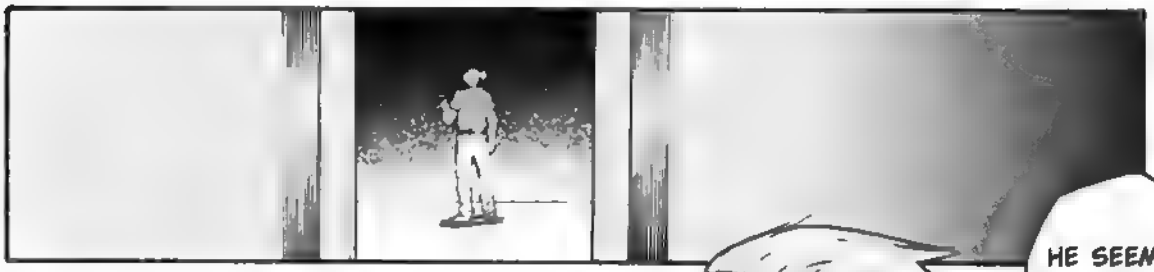
...
HMPH.
IF IT WOULD ALLEVIATE YOUR ANGER TO DECAPITATE ME, HELPLESS AS I AM WITH THIS COLLAR ON...
...THEN PLEASE, BY ALL MEANS, KILL ME.
YES... IT'S NO SURPRISE YOU WOULD SEE IT THAT WAY.
I'M AWARE OF THAT.
...I MIGHT NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M SERIOUSLY PISSED RIGHT NOW.
I WANT YOU TO KNOW...
...BEHIND THAT SELF-ASSURED LITTLE SMIRK OF YOURS.
COME BACK WITH THE MAN WHO'S THE REASON...
THAT'S WHY I'LL BE PATIENT AND GIVE YOU THREE DAYS.

...WHEN I TEAR YOU TO PIECES.
...I'LL WIPE IT OFF YOUR FACE...
AND THEN...

IF YOU CAN'T GET EVERYTHING PERFECTLY IN ORDER IN THREE DAYS, I'LL JUST KILL YOU NOW.
NO DICE.
I'D LIKE A WEEK...


BRAZ... IT REALLY RAISES MY HACKLES THAT YOU KNOW ME SO WELL.
I FEEL THE SAME ABOUT YOU, SIRE.
AS IMPATIENT AS ALWAYS, I SEE.
..... HMM.
GOT IT? THEN GET GOING.


I'LL BE ON MY WAY, THEN...
GAA (WHRR)



HE SEEMED PRETTY SURE I WOULDN'T KILL HIM NOW...
BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT BEING THE KING.....
HE SURE DOES KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT ME.
WONDER IF I SHOULDA TOLD HIM...?

YO.
CHIN (DING)
HOW ABOUT I POP THOSE DAMN GLASSES FOR YOU!?
HMM? YOUR BUBBLE GUM DIDN'T POP THIS TIME.
YOU MAKIN' FUN'A ME? HUH? ARE YA, GLASSES?
YOU'RE TALKIN' LIKE THAT ON PURPOSE.
BUCHI (SNAP)
JACK-ASS...
BUCHI
OH, HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING FOR ME, HONEY?
ALL RIGHT, C'MON.
GOT A NICE ROOM SET UP JUST FOR YOU, GLASSES.
I DON'T SUPPOSE IT'S JUST A GLASSES CASE?
SHUT IT.

.....
CAPTAIN GOYLE'LL BE HERE SOON.
OW!
SAID HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
GET IN.
GARI (BITE)
THIS IS BAD ...
A NAIL WAS STICKING OUT. IT PRICKED MY FINGER.
... WHAT?
GOO (FWOOSH)
LOOK ...
... SOME-THING CUT ME!
WELL, WHAT-EVER IT WAS...
A NAIL? THERE'S NO NAILS STICKING OUT.

BUSHU (GUSH)
BUSHU
AAARGH!
!
BAKUN (CHOMP)
I TOLD YOU, I CAN'T MAKE IT STOP!! IT HEALS ME AUTOMAT-ICALLY!
...WELL, THEN ...
...JUST STOP USING YOUR MAGIC!!
W...
HELP ME!! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!!
NOW!!
.....
TAKE IT OFF! PLEASE, THE COLLAR ...!! QUICKLY!!

THANK YOU.
YOU'RE SUCH A NICE GIRL.
NOW, I CAN FIGHT THE KING IN TOP CONDITION...
I'M ALSO FORTUNATE THAT THE COLLAR MADE ME INTO SOMEONE NOT WORTH KILLING.

...ON TOP OF HAVING TO LEAVE MY LABORATORY SOONER THAN PLANNED, I NOW HAVE A DEADLINE IN THREE DAYS...
SHUUU (FWSH)
.....
ALTHOUGH ...
I WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED YOU TO GET THINGS IN PERFECT ORDER, WOLF DADDY.
I HAVE TO HURRY...
GOOD AS NEW...
NOW I JUST NEED THE PLAYER...
THE STAGE IS SET...
GOO (WHOOSH)

I ASSUMED OFFICER BEROS WOULD BE BORED HALF TO DEATH WAITING FOR BRAZ, BUT WHEN I WENT TO MEET HER...
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR OFFICER BEROS, SIR, SHE TOOK THE MAN WHO CAME DOWN IN THE ELEVATOR TO THE HOLDING CELLS.
KA
KA (CLACK)
KA
DA (DASH)
BLOOD ...!?
DON'T TELL ME HE ...!?
!
I-WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT...
WHAT? HE CAME DOWN IN THE ELEVATOR ALIVE...?
OFFICER BEROS!!
OFFI-CER!?

OFFICER BEROOOOS!!
THIS CAN'T BE...
... NO...
UNGH...
UNGH...
BIK
BIK
BIK (PRICKLE)
YOU BASTARD ...
...WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE TO MY DARLING OFFICER...
...BRAZ D. BLOOD.

BISHI (CRACK)
GIN (GLARE)
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS...
I'LL KILL YOU A HUNDRED TIMES!! A THOUSAND TIMES!! TEN THOUSAND!!
I'LL KILL YOU I'LL KILL YOU I'LL KILL YOU I'LL KILL YOU—
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN IF THE KING DID LET YOU LIVE!
I'LL KILL YOU DEAD!!
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO KILL YOU!! I'LL HUNT YOU DOWN AND KILL YOU!!
I'LL KILL YOU OVER AND OVER!! AGAIN AND AGAIN!! HOW FAR WILL I GO TO KILL YOU?

UEEEH!
DOBAA (SPLOOSH)
グン GUN (WRIGGLE)
グン GUN
グン GUN
SPECIAL DISPENSATION SPELL...
...ANGRY SPEAR.

THE FEROCITY OF THE MONSTER IT CREATES IS THE FEROCITY OF MY ANGER.
NOW, WE GO TO WHERE MY RAGE TAKES US!!
TOGETHER AS ONE! LET'S GO!
TO MURDER BRAZ IN THE FAAACE !!
YAHHH
ピク
PIKU
ピクッ
PIKU (TWITCH)
JJIGAE...
MMM ...
MUNYA (MUMBLE)
ムニャ
MUNYA

OFFICER BEROS... YOUR DEATH TRULY IS A GREAT LOSS...
...AND I WILL AVENGE YOU...
DA (DASH)
YAH!!
LET'S GO, MY ANGRY!!
GOOOO (WHOOOOSH)

A COLLAR THAT CONTAINS DOGS THAT PREY ON ANY MAGIC...
ITS "COST OF MAINTENANCE" HAS TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE ...
...SO THAT COLLAR ...
...WASN'T ONLY A METHOD OF RESTRAINT, AFTER ALL...
AND THAT WAS THE TRUE MEANING OF THE "CURSE," AS BEROS CALLED IT...
SO I WAS RIGHT TO KNOCK HER OUT AND AVOID A DIRECT CONFRONTATION...
...WHICH MEANS THAT THE COLLAR WAS DRAINING MY MAGIC SIMPLY BY THE FACT OF MY WEARING IT.
AND IT WAS COMING FROM THE MAGIC IN MY OWN BODY...
...I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MAGIC TO GET BACK TO THE MANSION LIKE THIS.
I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOMEWHERE TO REST...
ZA
ZA
ZA
HOWEVER ...
ニュウウ SHUUUU (FWSHH)
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE "GOOD NIGHT LEAVES" THAT I GIVE TO LIZ WHEN SHE CAN'T SLEEP ...
...COULD BE USEFUL AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
ZA
ZA
ZA (SKSHH)

ゴオ
GOO
(WHOOSH)
...BEFORE THEY COME AFTER ME...
GOTCHA, BRAZ!!
!

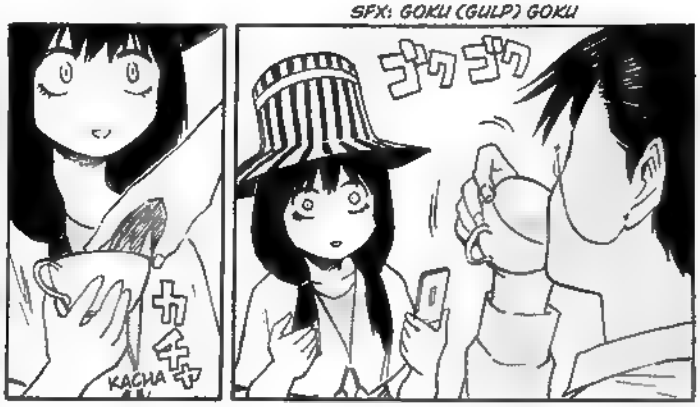
ドカ
DOKA (POW)
GAH!
WHY WOULD YOU TACKLE HIM ON THE SLOPE!?
YOU IDIOT!!
!
GORO (ROLL)
GORO
GORO
GORO
ゴロゴロゴロゴロ
OOPS.
ACROPOLIS CITY IS RIGHT DOWN THERE!

BOGAAN
(KABOOOM)

MUKU (RISE)

A DELICIOUS DARJEELING. AND NICELY BREWED TOO.
AH, IS THIS YOUR CELL PHONE?
I'LL NEED TO BORROW IT A MOMENT.

I'LL MAKE SURE YOU'RE COMPEN-SATED.
WHAT A LOVELY ROOM YOU HAVE. I APOLOGIZE FOR THE DESTRUCTION I'VE CAUSED.
KACHA (CLINK)
GOOD DAY, MADEMOI-SELLE.


SFX: GOKU (GULP) GOKU
KACHA
ゴクゴク

!
BRRRING!
→BIP!←
→BIP!←
→BIP!←
→BIP!←
→BIP!←
→BIP!←
Huh!?
THE TRUTH IS, I'M BEING CHASED.
SO I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME. I'LL MAKE THIS QUICK.
You're a good girl.
IN THE MANSION... I WAS DOING A JIGSAW PUZZLE.
Broth-er!?
IS THAT YOU, LIZ? IT'S ME.
Hello ...?
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?
I'll have to hide until then... Please hurry...
O... OKAY! I GOT IT...!!
GRAB YOUR AX AND COME TO ACROPOLIS CITY IN HALF AN HOUR.
AND WHEN YOU GET HERE, MEET ME IN FRONT OF THAT ICE CREAM STAND YOU LIKE... UNDERSTAND, LIZ?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I CAN COUNT ON, LIZ.

THEN I'LL SEE YOU IN HALF AN HOUR.
Okay!
→BIP!←
PATAN (SNAP)
パタン

IT'S NO USE HIDING!!
スー
SU (SNEAK)
DAMMIT! WHERE HAVE YOU GONE!?
BRAZ!!

WHOA!
JOBOBO (SPLOOSH)
ジョボボ
スー
SU
WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
ガラッ
GARA (SLIDE)
HALF AN HOUR...THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TIME FOR ME TO RECOVER PLENTY OF MAGIC...

GA (GRAB)
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
MPH!?
STILL, WHO COMES IN BY THE WINDOW?
I WAS AFRAID I'D SOIL MYSELF, THERE.
PARDON ME.
YEAH, NO THANKS TO YOU!
ARE YOU FINISHED?
MM-HM.
ZURU (DRAG)
ZURU
BATAN (SLAM)
AND NOW IT'S A QUESTION OF WHETHER I CAN KEEP OUT OF THE WAY OF THAT FELLOW...
KII (CREAK)
YOU'LL HAVE TO WASH YOUR HANDS IN YOUR DREAMS.

GIN
(GLARE)
GO
GO
GO
GO
(RUMBLE)
I'M COMING, BROTH-ER!!

BO
(SHOOM)
GUN
(CHUNK)
BA
(WHOOSH)
...SO DON'T LET THEM GET YOU...!!
SHAAAA
(SHOOOM)
I'LL BE THERE SOON...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
SU (SNEAK)
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
HEY! DO YOU MIND!?
EEK!
DON (BUMP)
BA (STRUT)
BARA
BARA (TUMBLE)
I'VE DISGUISED MYSELF EVEN FURTHER... I'M IN AN INCONSPICUOUS PLACE...
HEY! ANGRY, STOP THAT!!
BAKU (CHOMP)
BAKU
EEK!
SO HOW IS HE FINDING ME...!?

YAHHH!
DA (DASH)
IS IT THAT CREATURE ...!?
CAN IT TELL WHICH WAY I'M GOING...!?
THEN THIS REALLY IS BAD...
YAH!
THIS WAY!?
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL MANAGE TO ESCAPE HIM FOR A WHOLE THIRTY MINUTES...

♠ To Be Continued ♠

GOOD NIGHT LEAF

RARITY: ☆☆

JUST A HINT OF THIS LEAF'S SCENT IS VERY RELAXING, BUT GET TOO MUCH OF A WHIFF, AND YOU'LL CONK RIGHT OUT. IT'S SAID TO MAKE A LOVELY ADDITION TO HERBAL TEA.

BLOOD LAD

BRAZ... I'VE BEEN DOING...
...QUITE A BIT OF RESEARCH ON YOU...
BASA (FLAP)
BUA (VWOO)
GOUN (WHOOM)
GOUN
...BUT NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR WHAT YOU DID TO MY OFFICER.
I DON'T KNOW... WHY THE KING ALLOWED YOU TO LIVE...
SU (SWSH)

ドゴ
DON (BAM)
UNTIL MY ANGER ...
...IS SATIS-FIED...!

CHAPTER 27 ♠
OKONOMIYAKI ASSORTMENT

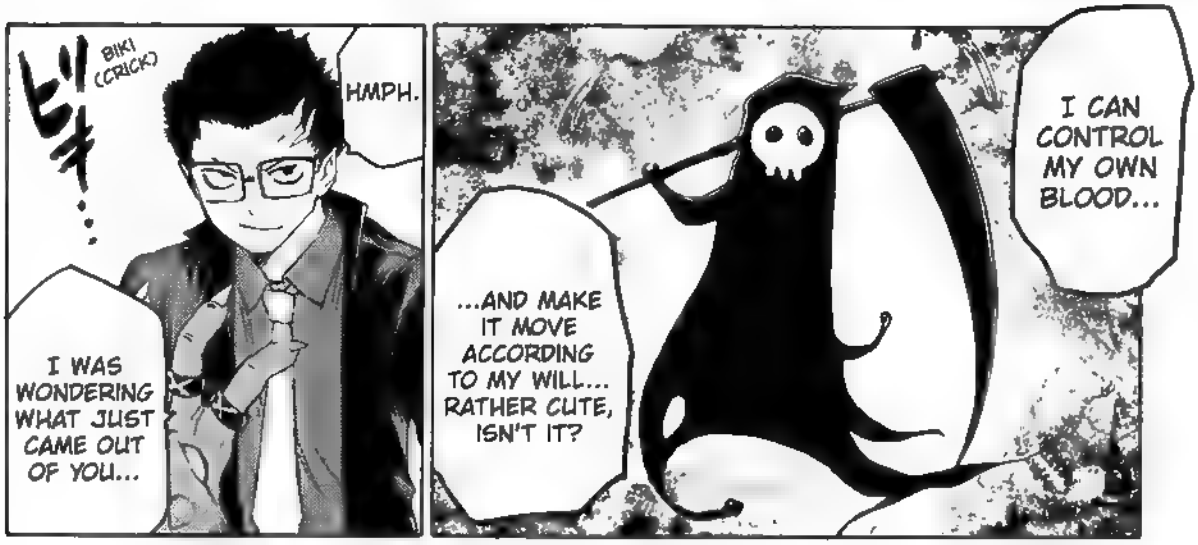
バァァキィィン
BAKIIIN (KASHIIING)
SO ESCAPE ISN'T AN OPTION...
NGH...
A BARRIER? DON'T MAKE THIS HARDER THAN IT NEEDS TO BE, BRAZ...
THE MORE YOU ANNOY ME, THE WORSE IT'LL GO FOR YOU...
ビシッ
BISHI (CRACK)

YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN!
BIKI
BIKI
I NEVER HARMED BEROS!
I ONLY MADE HER SLEEP!!
HE'S GETTING STRONGER...
WA... WAIT ...!!
BIKI (CRICK)
SHUT UP...!
BIKI
.....
MY MAGIC IS...
THE BLOOD YOU SAW THERE WAS MINE... BELIEVE ME!
BIKI
BIKI
...WAS HE WEAKER JUST NOW...?
BAKI (CRACK)
BUT... IT'S TOO LATE...
QUIET...

GAH!
DOGA (WHAM)
I'D RATHER YOU SPIT OUT WHAT YOU'RE UP TO THAN YOUR BLOOD...
ボタ BOTA
ボタ BOTA (DRIP)
...I'LL LET YOU LIVE.
HMPH.
WHAT YOU DISCUSSED WITH THE KING...WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO NOW...
IF YOU TELL ME EVERY-THING...
YOU CAN STILL MANAGE THAT, BRAZ...

I SEE...
SFX: FURA (SWAY)
フラッ
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG ...
A WISE DECI-SION.
I SEE HOW YOUR ABILITIES WORK... THAT'S WHAT I MEANT.
...WHAT?
フワ
FUWA (FLOAT)
ズザ...
ZUZA (SKID)
!
スゥ.... SUU (FWSH)
ビシャ
BISHA (FWIP)
シャ
SHA (FWP)
IS THAT HIS BLOOD ...!?
ビチャ
BICHA (SPLAT)
BICHA
BICHA
ドン
BA (JUMP)

...MY SPECIAL DISPEN-SATION ...
ZU (ZMM)
ZU
ZU
THIS IS BLOOD STALKER.
ALLOW ME TO INTRO-DUCE...


BIKI (CRICK)
HMPH.
I WAS WONDERING WHAT JUST CAME OUT OF YOU...
...AND MAKE IT MOVE ACCORDING TO MY WILL... RATHER CUTE, ISN'T IT?
I CAN CONTROL MY OWN BLOOD...

AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M NEARLY FAINT FROM BLOOD LOSS.
NO, I DON'T...
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN DO ANYTHING TO ME WITH THAT ABILITY?
CHILD'S PLAY.
?
WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY I WANTED YOU TO SEE THIS.
I'M IN ABSOLUTELY NO CONDITION TO FIGHT YOU...
...IT'S POSSIBLE FOR ME TO CONTROL IT, NO MATTER WHERE IT IS.
スゥッ・・・
SUU (SEEP)
WITH THIS POWER, AS LONG AS THE BLOOD IS MINE...
MEANING ...
...I CAN TAKE OFF BEROS'S HEAD WHILE SHE SLEEPS.
...EVEN NOW...

YOU'RE BLUFFING.
RGH...
GA (GRAB)
SHIO (TWITCH)
SHIO
WEREN'T YOU ANGRY BECAUSE YOU BELIEVED BEROS WAS DEAD?
ANXIETY AND UNCERTAINTY...
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?
AS I THOUGHT... HE IS WEAKER.
WHY SHOULD YOU WORRY ABOUT WHETHER I'M BLUFFING?
...SMOTHER THE FLAMES OF ANGER...
WE COULD...
...HAVE SOME ICE CREAM...
WHY DON'T WE... COOL DOWN A BIT AND TALK THIS OVER...?
SHUUUU (SHOOO)

WHAT DO YOU SAY?
ペロ
PERO (LICK)
YOU FOUR-EYED JERK...
.....
HE'S WONDERFUL. I'M PROUD TO BE HIS BROTHER.
THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS.

...SHE KNOWS YOU'RE HIS LITTLE BROTHER, SO BE A GOOD ONE.
UNDER-STANDABLE, BUT MAMA IS PRETTY GOOD FRIENDS WITH BRAZ ...
DEFI-NITELY NOT.
SO I SHOULDN'T SAY I'D LIKE TO KILL HIM IF I COULD?
...OKAY, BUT.....
RIGHT! JUST LIKE THAT!
...
YEAH, YEAH!
YOU'RE S'POSED TO HAVE NOTH-ING TO DO WITH HER!!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON IN THERE!?
IT'S BEEN, LIKE, HALF AN HOUR SINCE SHE WENT IN THERE...
ARE THEY EVER GONNA COME OUT?
AND SHE SAID YOU CAN COME IN NOW.
UH...
ギィ・・・
GII (CREAK)
WE CAN HEAR EVERY WORD YOU'RE SAYING .....
..... UM...

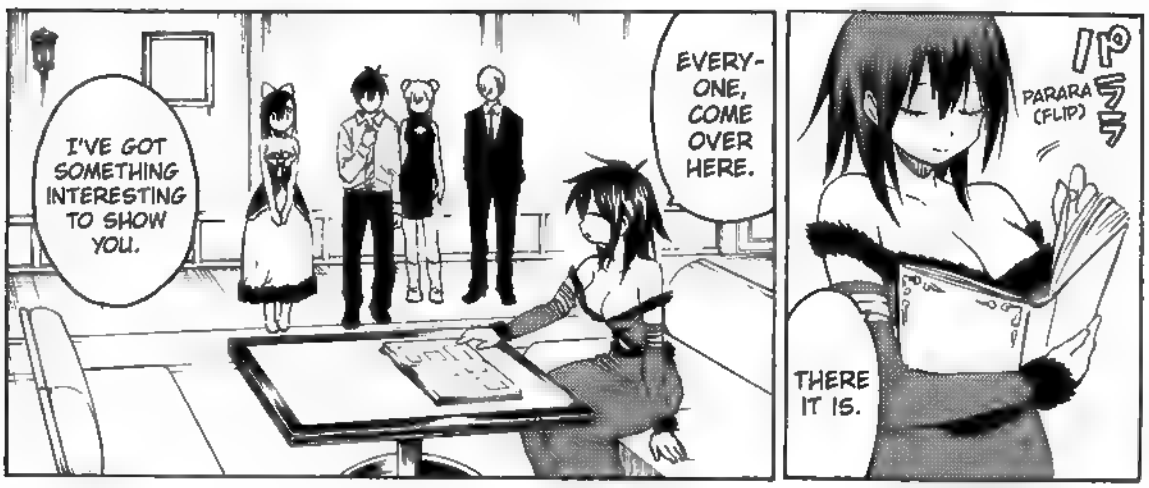
ZA (STEP)
...BUT IT'S JUST THIS GUY, REALLY...
US, SHE SAYS...
COULDN'T YOU BE A LITTLE MORE PATIENT?
HONESTLY, KIDS...I WAS LISTENING TO FUYUMI'S STORY.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, MADAM. YOU CERTAINLY ARE BEAUTIFUL.
I AM STAZ, A VAMPIRE.
.....
THE LOT OF YOU...
HEY, SLOW DOWN, DUMB-ASS!!
I BEG THE HONOR OF YOUR DAUGHTER'S HAND.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS TO MY ELDER BROTHER.
W-WAIT, EVERYONE, PLEASE CALM DOWN...
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING SO BLANK!? AND WHAT WAS WITH THAT LAST PART!?
?
DON'T JUST SPIT OUT LINES LIKE A PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE!!

OH, HOW SILLY.
WERE YOU PRACTICING THAT OUT IN THE HALLWAY?
AH HAH HAH HAH HAH!
I WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE UP TO!!
UH...OF COURSE ...
SO YOU'RE STAZ-KUN... I'VE HEARD OF YOU FROM BRAZ.
HE SAID...
...THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO BRING FUYUMI BACK TO LIFE...

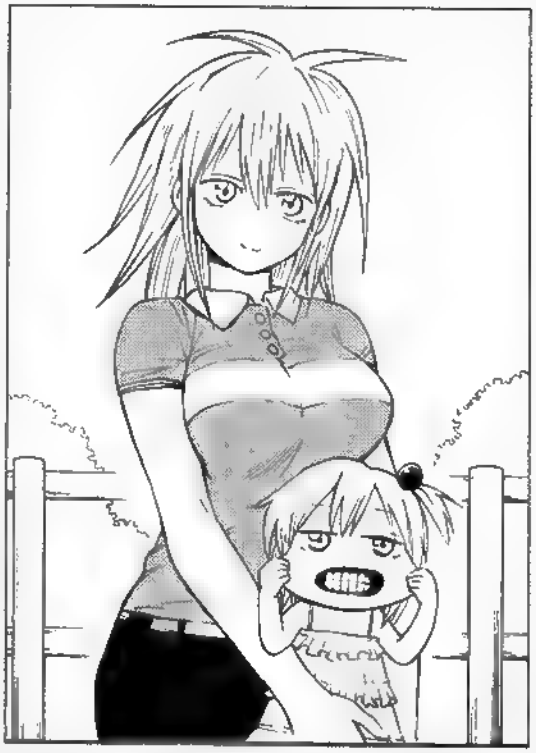
YOU NEED BRAZ TO DO THE RESUR-RECTION.
BUT WHEN I HEARD THAT, I FORBADE HIM.
I CAN'T HAVE THAT... FUYUMI IS MINE...
AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU GO REVIVING HER BEHIND MY BACK.
DO (THUMP)
IF YOU WANT TO DRINK SOME LIVE BLOOD...
DO
...YOU CAN HAVE MINE... STAZ-KUN.
DO

WHAT... IS THIS FEELING...?
IT'S ALMOST LIKE THAT TIME...
:GULP:
HERE ...
IT IS THE SAME.
YEAH! THAT'S THE ISSUE! WHAT KNELL SAID!
DON'T DO THAT!
MOM, PLEASE DON'T DO THAT IN FRONT OF US...
THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE HERE!
OH, MY DEAR, DON'T BE JEALOUS BECAUSE YOU HAVE SO FEW CHARMS OF YOUR OWN.
HEY! MAMA !!
SFX: DOKI (BADMP) DOKI
WHAT WAS THAT...?
.....

SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD, THERE EXISTS ANOTHER "YOU" WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE YOU...
...AND IF YOU SEE THAT PERSON, YOU WILL DIE...
WHO IS SHE..!?
...BY THE WAY...
...DO YOU KNOW WHAT A DOPPEL-GANGER IS?
WELL, AS IT TURNS OUT...
...YOU DON'T ACTUALLY DIE...


I'VE GOT SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SHOW YOU.
EVERY-ONE, COME OVER HERE.
パラリ
PARARA (FLIP)
THERE IT IS.

WHY THAT !?
WHA —!?
THIS IS A PICTURE OF BELL WHEN SHE WAS TWO OR THREE.
AWW!
SHE'S SO CUTE!



QUIT LOOKIN' AT IT!!
HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
NOT YOU...

...BUT NOT A DAY OLDER.
YEAH... WELL, YOU LOOK DIFFERENT ...
YOU MEAN... ME?

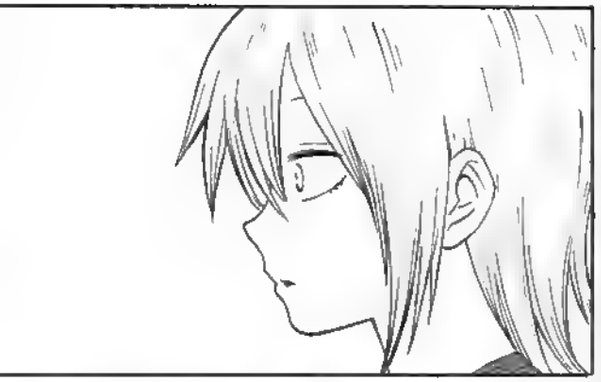
HUH...? THAT PLACE ...
AND? NOW WHAT? YOU TRYIN' TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE "SEE, I'M STILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS"?
SIS, REALLY...

SOOO... YOU USED ME TO SHOW THE CONTRAST, HUH...
YES... I'VE STAYED JUST AS I WAS BACK THEN...
THANKS A LOT.

I USED TO WORK THERE.
WHA ...?
OH, THE HIROTSUGU OKONOMI-YAKI SHOP?
THIS PICTURE HERE... I KNOW THE SHOP IN IT!
YES! IT'S IN MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD. MY DAD AND I WOULD GO ALL THE TIME.
KASHA (SNAP)
お好み焼き
いろつぎ
お好み焼き
I EVEN WENT FROM THE DEMON WORLD TO THE HUMAN WORLD TO HAVE SOME, QUITE OFTEN.
BACK THEN, I WAS IN AN OKONOMIYAKI PHASE.

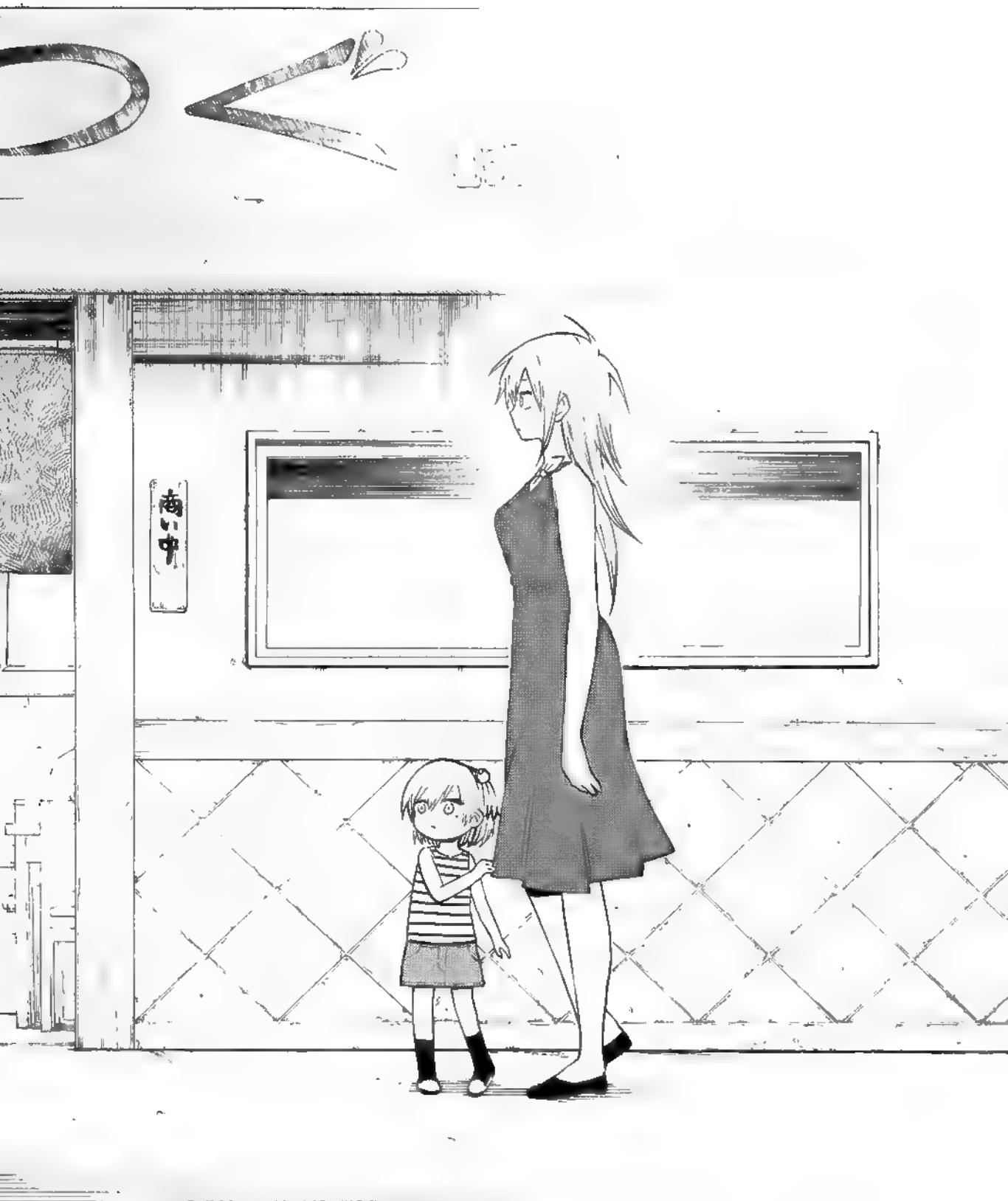
SIGNS: OKONOMIYAKI HIROTSUGU, OKONOMIYAKI

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HELP.
HERE WE GO.
TEE HEE HEE HEE HEE!
OH, YOU AND YOUR SILLY FACES!
YOU TOO, FUYUMI-CHAN.
OF COURSE. TAKE CARE, NOW...

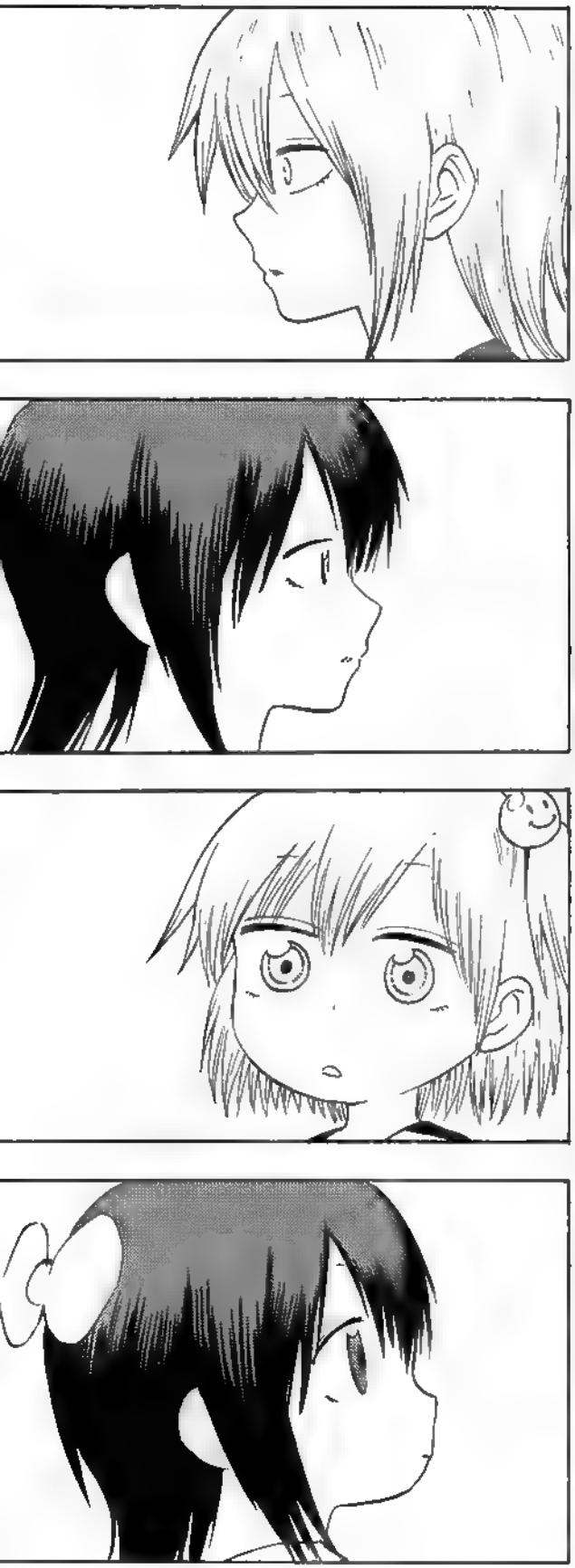


SIGN: HIROTSUGU

SIGN: OPEN

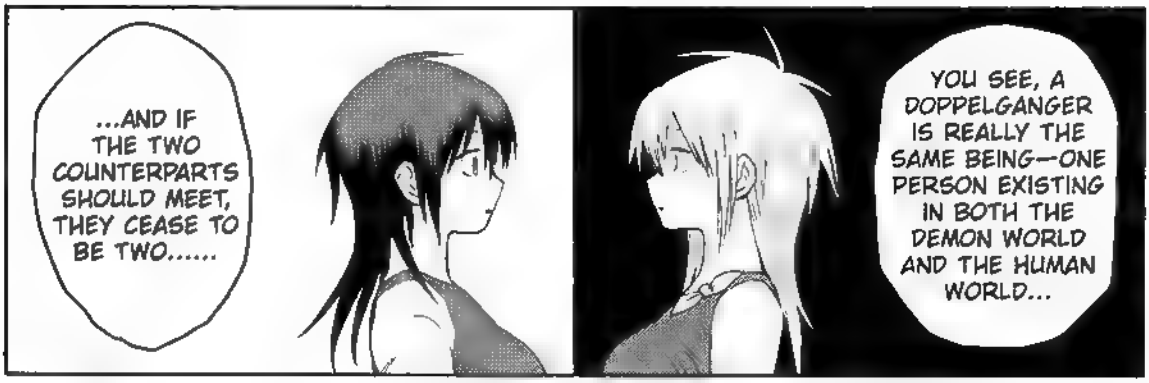


SIGN: OPEN

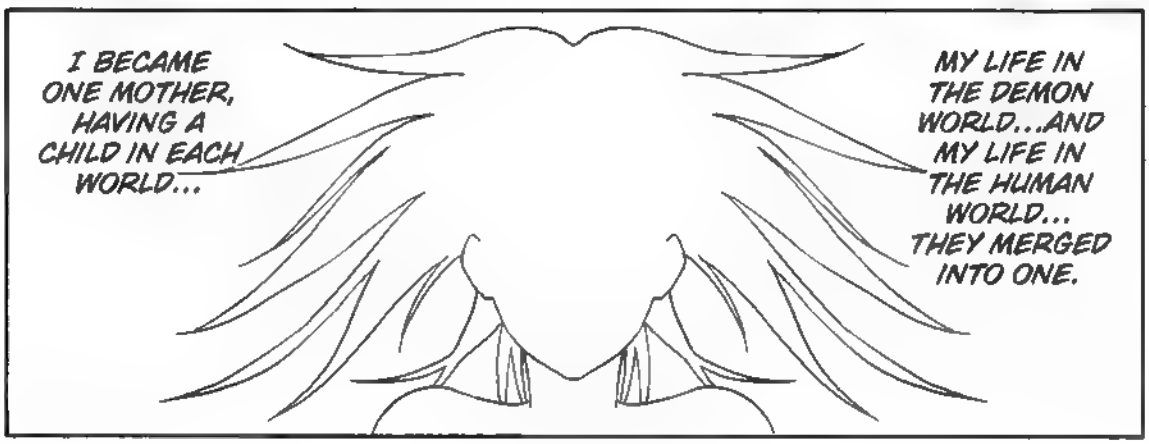


SIGN: HIROTSUGU

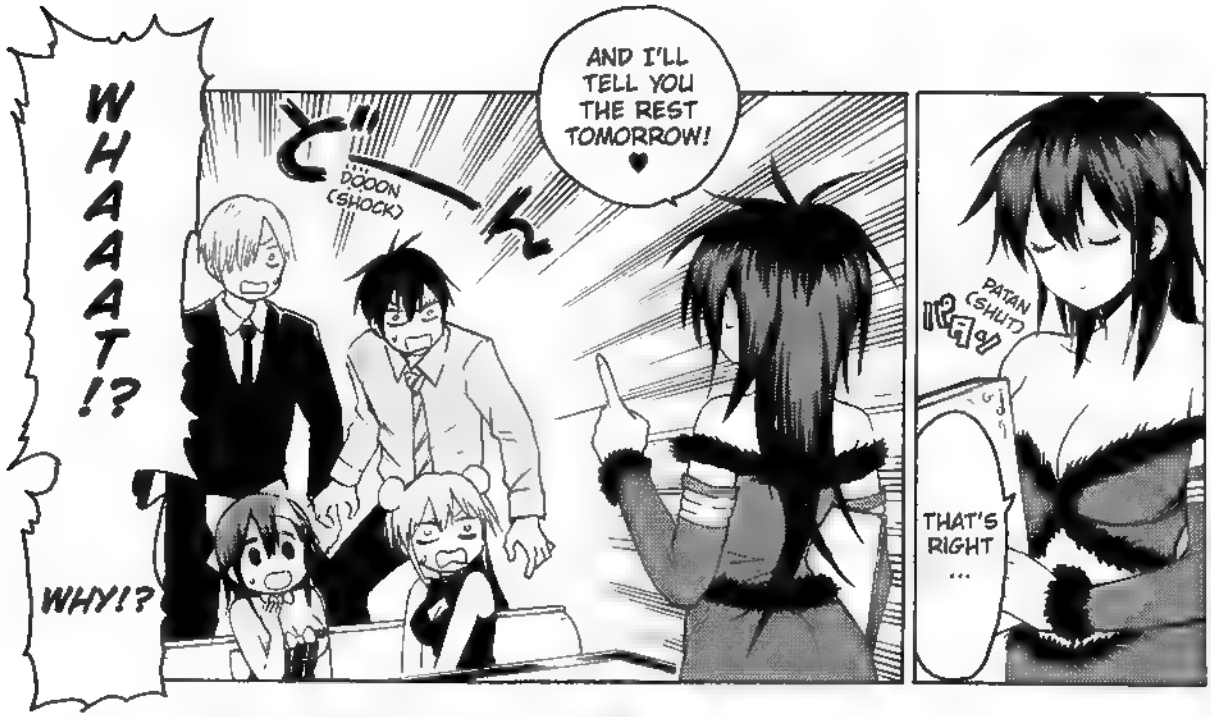
...WAS WHEN *WE ALL* FIRST MET...
AND THAT...


...AND IF THE TWO COUNTERPARTS SHOULD MEET, THEY CEASE TO BE TWO.....
YOU SEE, A DOPPELGANGER IS REALLY THE SAME BEING—ONE PERSON EXISTING IN BOTH THE DEMON WORLD AND THE HUMAN WORLD...

AND BECOME ONE!


I BECAME ONE MOTHER, HAVING A CHILD IN EACH WORLD...
MY LIFE IN THE DEMON WORLD...AND MY LIFE IN THE HUMAN WORLD... THEY MERGED INTO ONE.

FUYU...
MI...
BELL...
...THEN THAT MEANS WE'RE...
... SISTERS ...?

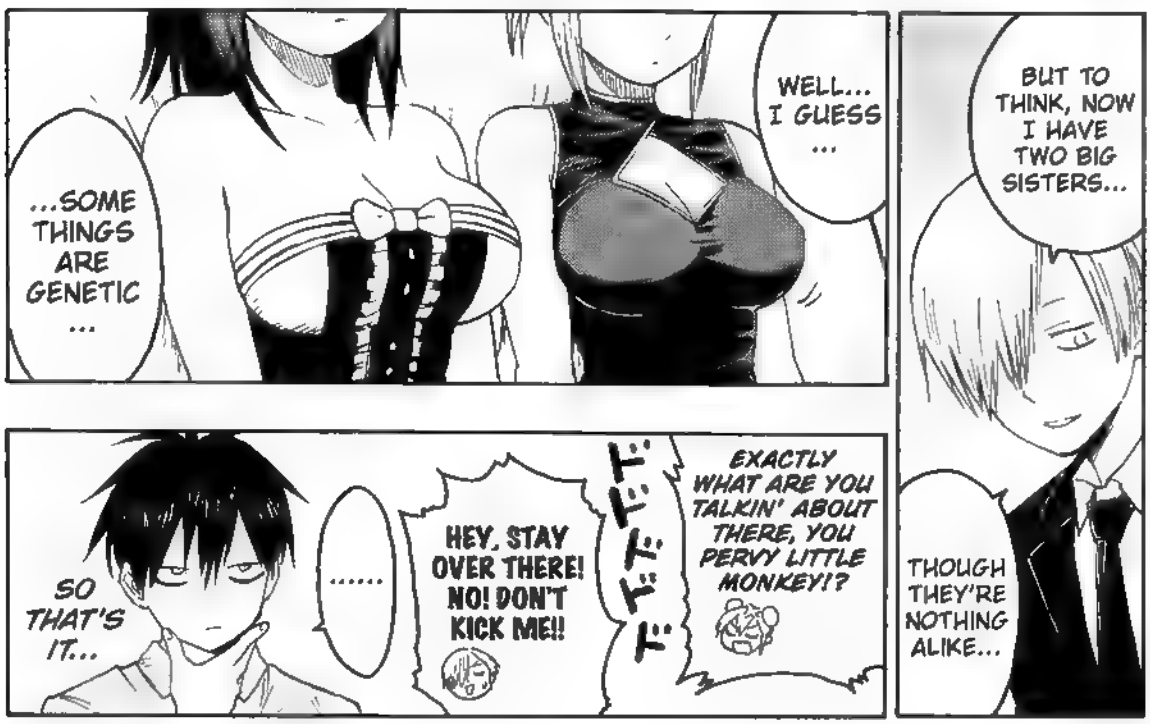

WHAAAT!?
WHY!?
...DOOON (SHOCK)
AND I'LL TELL YOU THE REST TOMORROW!
PATAN (SHUT)
THAT'S RIGHT ...

UH... UM... ER... WAIT...
WHAT KINDA MON-STER ARE YOU!?
YOU BUST OUT WITH THAT SHOCKER AND THEN JUST LEAVE US HANGING LIKE YOU'RE READING US A STORY!?

HEY, WAIT!!
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
SUIII (SLIDE)
TOMOR-ROW I'LL TELL THE STORY OF YOUR PAPAS.

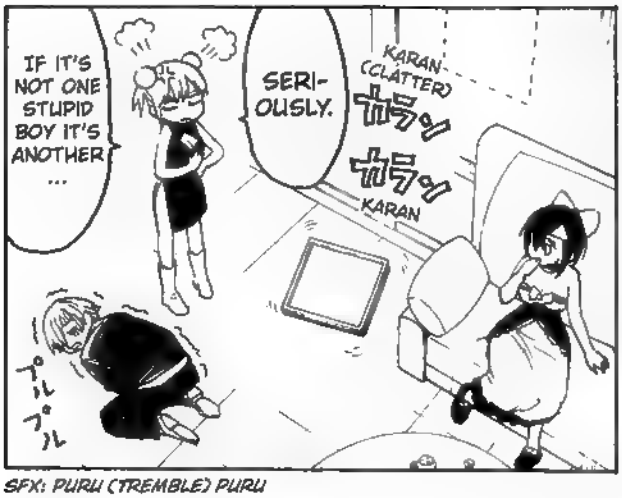
FU-FU-FU... YOUR REACTIONS WHEN YOU'RE UPSET ARE EXACTLY OPPOSITE.
GUI (TUG)
I WONDER WHO IT IS YOU EACH RESEMBLE ...

HASTA LA VISTA!
YOU MAY ALL DO AS YOU PLEASE UNTIL THEN.

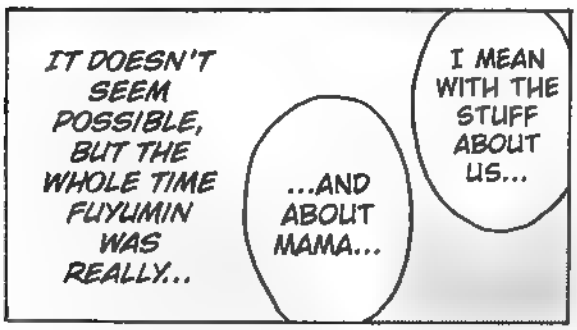

...SOME THINGS ARE GENETIC ...
WELL... I GUESS ...
BUT TO THINK, NOW I HAVE TWO BIG SISTERS...
SO THAT'S IT...
.....
HEY, STAY OVER THERE! NO! DON'T KICK ME!!
ドドド
EXACTLY WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT THERE, YOU PERVY LITTLE MONKEY!?
THOUGH THEY'RE NOTHING ALIKE...

SFX: DO (STOMP) DO DO DO DO

RIGHT, IT SHOULD BE JUST LIKE SHE SAID...
BUT SOME-THING'S OFF.
IT IS THE SAME.
I FELT THAT WAY BECAUSE SHE DOES HAVE THE SAME BLOOD AS FUYUMI...
.....
IT'S SOMETHING ON FUYUMI'S SIDE... SOMETHING THAT FUYUMI HAS...OH... MAYBE...
NO, IT ISN'T THAT SIMPLE...
SO HER ALLURE IS DOWN BY HALF...IS THAT IT...?
BECAUSE HER MOTHER NEYN IS HALF DEMON...?
...A "VIRGIN"?
BY ANY CHANCE, ARE YOU...
FUYUMI ...



SFX: PURU (TREMBLE) PURU

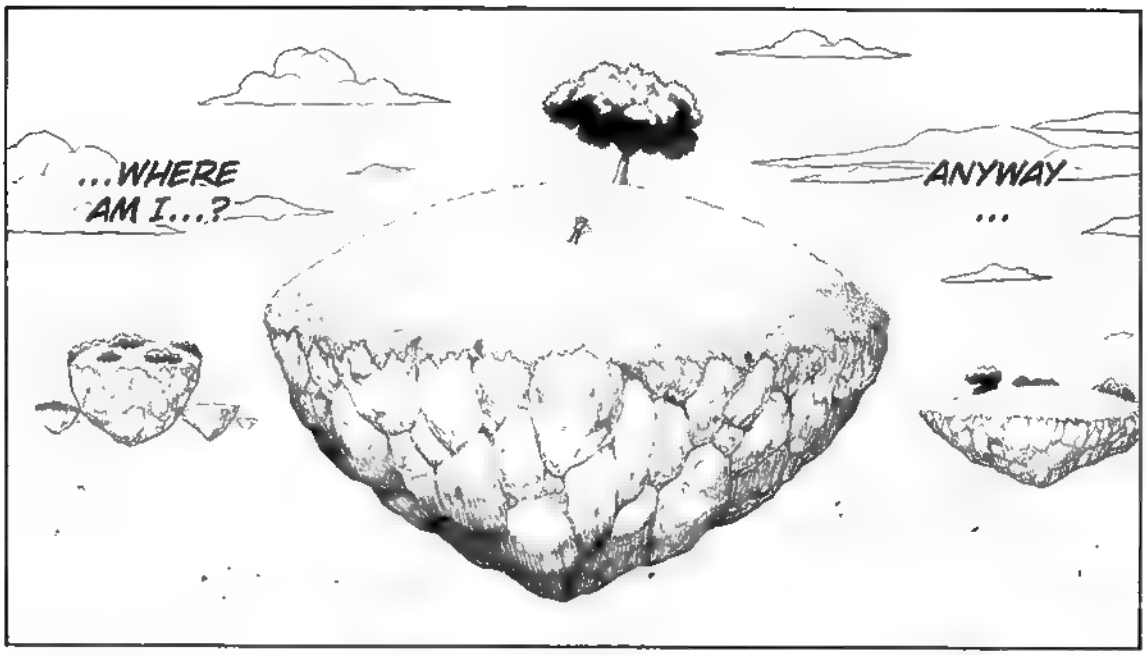


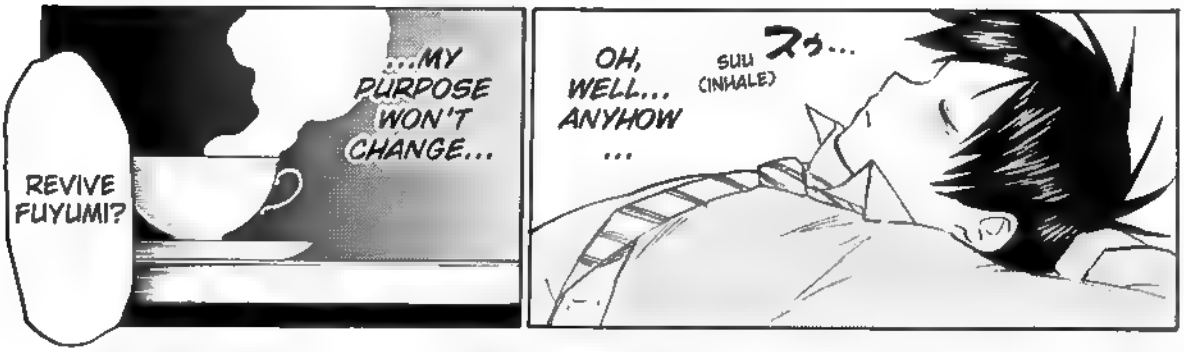
...MY OWN DEAR SISTER...
...OH. I SEE.
ACTUALLY... IT'S ALL SO SUDDEN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IS WHAT...
...WELL, I GUESS THAT'S BEEN TRUE SINCE I CAME TO THIS WORLD, BUT...

SU (TOUCH)
THERE'S TOO MUCH HAPPENING ...
...AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...
THAT PERSON IS MY MOTHER...
I DON'T KNOW...
BAAN (BWONG)
GU (JAB)
WHEN YOU COME BACK TO LIFE, YOU'LL PROBABLY FORGET IT ALL!
JUST KEEP GOING AND DON'T THINK ABOUT STUFF SO HARD.
THAT KINDA ATTITUDE ...
WHA ...?
YOU CAN TAKE IT EASY, Y'KNOW?

UGH...
...AND BIT BY BIT, FUYUMI WILL RUN OUT OF TIME TO GO HOME...
SHE'LL KEEP THEM HERE, TAKING IT EASY AND SWAPPING STORIES ABOUT TIMES GONE BY...
THEY'LL TAKE IT EASY, LETTING THEIR SISTERLY BOND GROW...
THEY'RE PLAYING RIGHT INTO MOM'S HANDS.
THEN, SHE WON'T WANT TO...
...AND SHE MIGHT EVEN FORGET ABOUT BEING REVIVED...

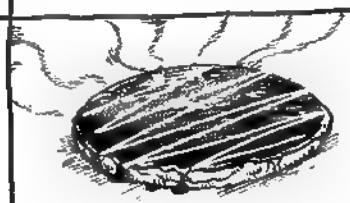
#77
SAAA (WHOOSH)
WELL... NOT LIKE IT MATTERS TO ME...
TWO BIG SISTERS, HUH...
I WANT...
IS THAT REALLY ALL THERE IS TO IT...?
...TO DRINK THE HUMAN FUYUMI'S BLOOD...





♠ To Be Continued ♠

HIROTSUGU OKONOMIYAKI



RARITY: ☆☆☆☆☆

"OKONOMIYAKI" – A DISH THAT CAN ONLY BE FOUND IN A CERTAIN ISLAND NATION OF THE HUMAN WORLD. IN PARTICULAR, THE FARE OF THE FAMED SHOP HIROTSUGU IS BELOVED BY LOCALS TO THIS DAY.

BLOOD LAD

RRRING!
RRRING!
MMM...
ブーム ブーム
BUUM BUUM (BZZ)
RRRING!
-BIP!-
You have reached this party's voice mail...
DAMN IT.
HOW LONG IS SHE GOING TO STAY ASLEEP...?
DEPENDS ON THE PERSON, BUT IT'S USUALLY AROUND FORTY MINUTES.
WELL, I BOUGHT ONE MOCHA NUT AND ONE MIXED BERRY.
WHICH WOULD YOU LIKE?

HEY!
ペロ ペロ
YOU STOP THAT RIGHT NOW, ANGRY!!
I SAID I DON'T WANT ANY!!
I DON'T WANT ANY!!
WELL, THEN TAKE THE MOCHA NUT.
I CAN VOUCH FOR IT.
YOU THINK I'D EAT SOMETHING YOU GAVE ME!?
SFX: PERO (LICK) PERO
ALWAYS ACTING HIGH AND MIGHTY JUST BECAUSE OF HIS NOBLE BACK-GROUND... AND MIXED BERRY DOESN'T EVEN SUIT HIM!!
BASTARD... ACTING SO DAMN RELAXED... WHAT, DOES HE THINK HE'S GOT THE UPPER HAND NOW...?
YOUR SPECIAL DISPENSATION'S BECOME RATHER ADORABLE.
HA HA HA.
.....
WORRIED ABOUT BEROS?
GIRO (GLARE)
YAH!
?
CHIRA (GLANCE)
→LICK← →LICK←
I WANNA END HIM IN THE WORST WAY!!
UGH, HE PISSES ME OFF...
NO GOOD, IS IT...

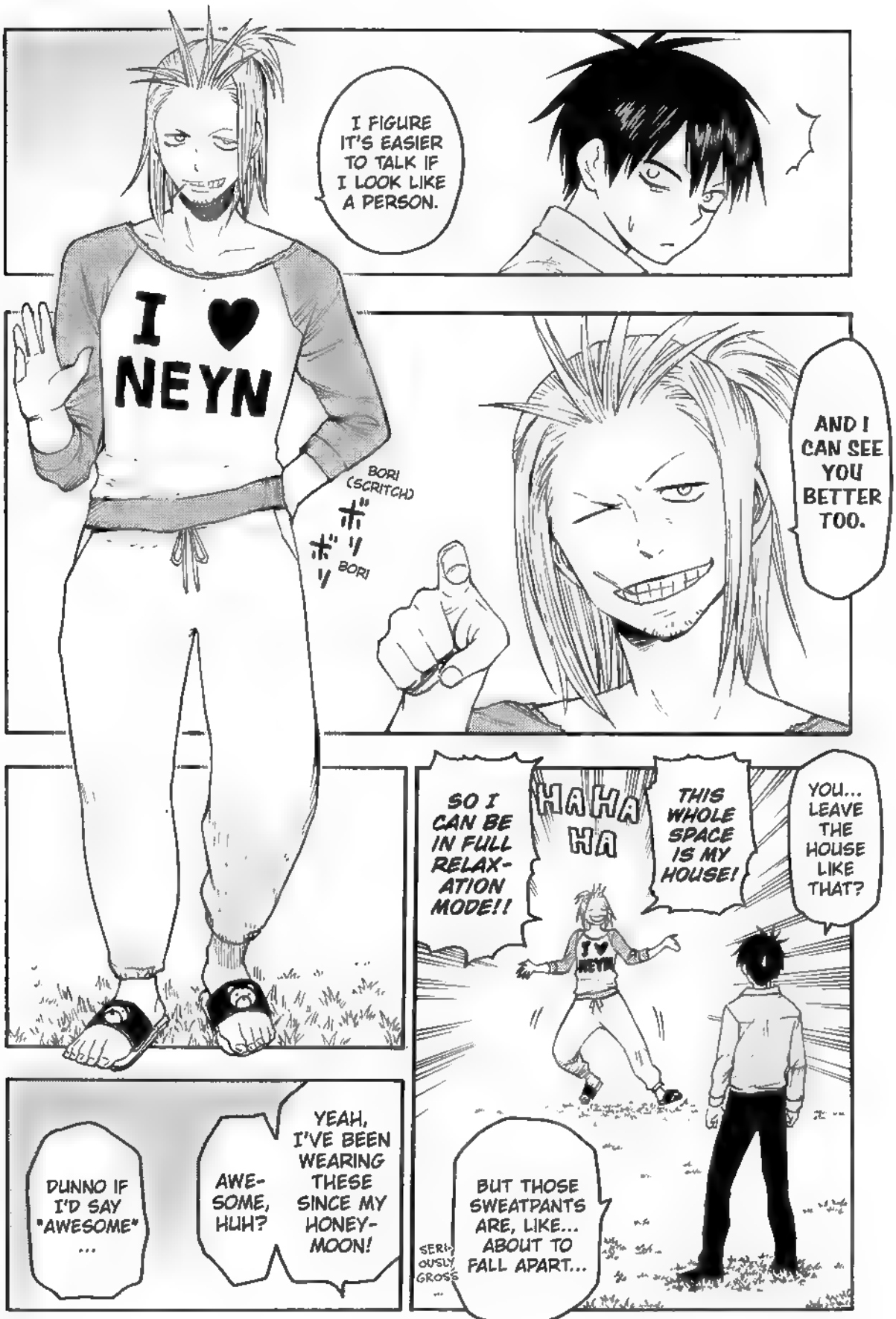
IF I WAIT FOR IT TO RECOVER, BEROS MIGHT WAKE UP FIRST... AND THEN I'LL BE DONE FOR...
NOW...WE MAY HAVE A MOMENTARY TRUCE, BUT I'VE USED UP JUST ABOUT ALL OF HIS MAGIC...
...MY ANGRY WILL BE LIKE THIS...AND BRAZ IS IN CONTROL...
UNTIL I CAN MAKE SURE OFFICER BEROS IS SAFE...
HURRY UP, LIZ...!!
WAKE UP SOON, OFFICER BEROS...!!
DO SOMETHING TO END THIS AWKWARD SITUATION...
YAH!
MORE!

CHAPTER 28 ♠ SUPER YOUNG
BLOODLAD

BASA
(FLAP)
FUWA
(FWOOSH)
BASA
BASA
HEY,
KID.

NOT ONLY THIS ONE.
OH, SO THIS ISLAND'S YOUR NEST?
UH...
YOU ENJOYIN' YOUR NAP IN MY YARD?
BASA (FLAP)
BASA
GABA (JUMP)
GAAAH! THE HELL!?
...IS A SUBSPACE THAT I CREATED.
THIS PLACE KNOWN AS HYDRA... ALL OF IT...
BASA
...HEADS HYDRA.
AND I AM ITS MASTER ...

BUAN
(BWOOM)
SHURURU
(FWSHH)
ZUBU
ZUBU
BULIN
(VWOOM)
.....
HEY.
OVER
HERE.
ZUBU
(ZWOOP)


I FIGURE IT'S EASIER TO TALK IF I LOOK LIKE A PERSON.
I ♥ NEYN
BORI (SCRITCH)
ボリ
ボリ
BORI
AND I CAN SEE YOU BETTER TOO.
SO I CAN BE IN FULL RELAX-ATION MODE!!
HAHA HA
THIS WHOLE SPACE IS MY HOUSE!
YOU... LEAVE THE HOUSE LIKE THAT?
BUT THOSE SWEATPANTS ARE, LIKE... ABOUT TO FALL APART...
SERI-OUSLY GROSS
DUNNO IF I'D SAY "AWESOME" ...
AWE-SOME, HUH?
YEAH, I'VE BEEN WEARING THESE SINCE MY HONEY-MOON!

SUTON (CATCH)
BUN (VWOOSH)
I ♥ NEYN
SHE GOT HER POWER FROM ME.
NO MAYBE ABOUT IT.
SO ARE YOU, MAYBE ...
... BELL'S DAD...?
WHAT ABOUT FUYUMI?
.....
...THEY'RE BOTH MY DARLING ANGELS.
GUBI GUBI (GULP)
KNELL WAS BORN AFTER NEYN MERGED WITH THAT HUMAN, SO HE'S NOT QUITE AS STRONG, BUT...
ZU ZU ZU ZU ZU (ZMM)
DO YOU PLAN TO STOP US?
BUN
BUT...
POI (TOSS)
OH...SHE'S YANAGI'S DAUGHTER.
...NEYN AND I TALKED IT OUT, AND WE DECIDED...
...TO ADOPT HER AS A CHILD OF HYDRA.

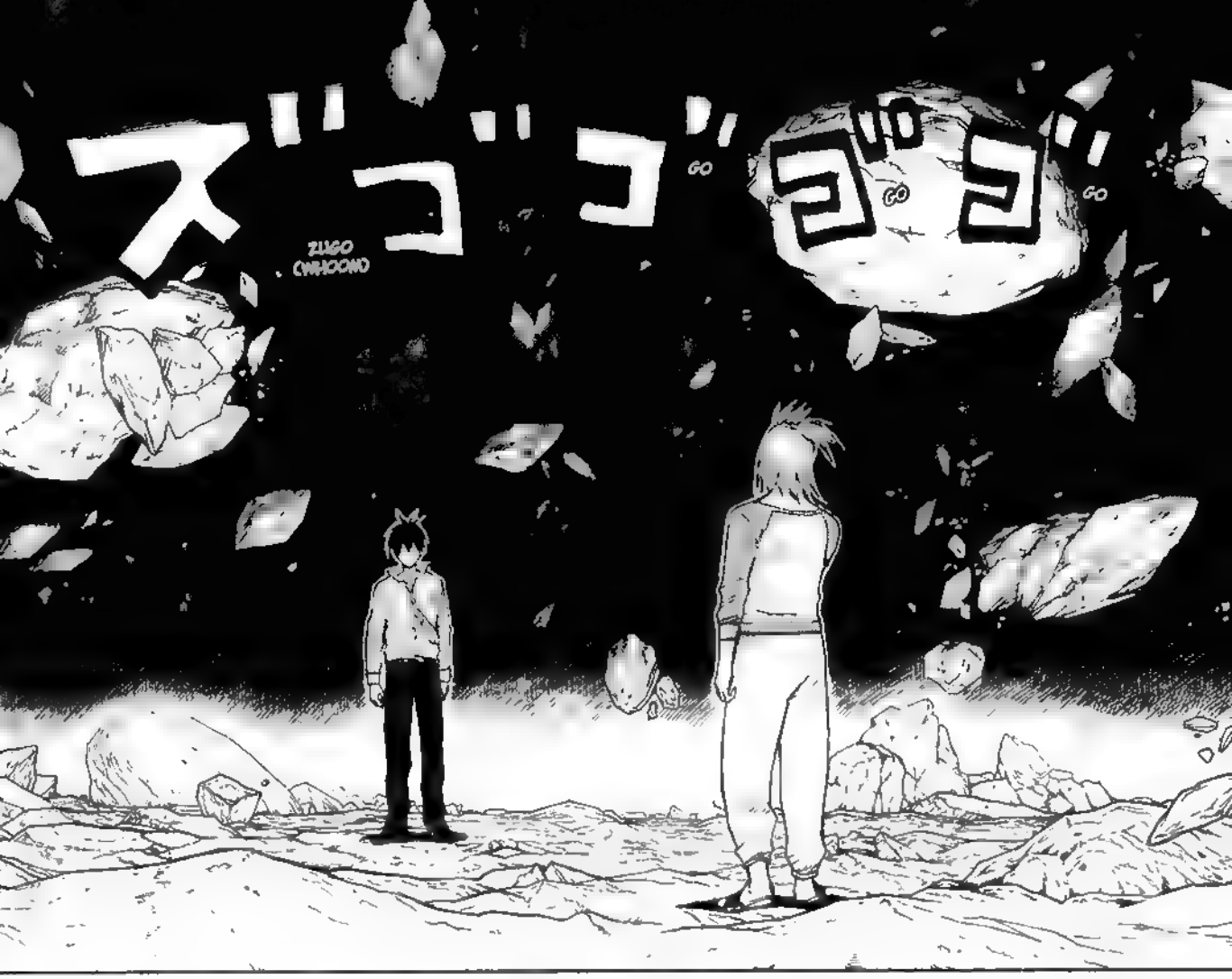
GO GO GO

...IS YANAGI'S DAUGHTER.
FUYUMI-SAMA.
YES!?
WOULD YOU LIKE A CUP OF COFFEE?
OH! NO, THANK YOU...
.....
...IS MY DAD'S DOPPELGANGER...
MOM MUST HAVE HIRED HIM HERE TO MAKE SURE HE CAN'T MEET DAD IN THE HUMAN WORLD...
SO HE...
?
...OF RELATIONSHIP DO YOU HAVE...WITH MISTRESS NEYN?
BU (PFFT)
WHAT SORT OF...
UM... ER...

THE MIS-TRESS, YOU SAY...
...BUT IN FACT, THE ONE WHO HAS ME SERVE HERE IS THE MASTER.
OH NO, BELL-SAN...
IT'S HOT ...
FUYUMIN! WHERE THE HECK DID THAT COME FROM!?
YOU THINK MOM IS HAVING AN AFFAIR!?
N-NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT—

OH...
YANAGI ...

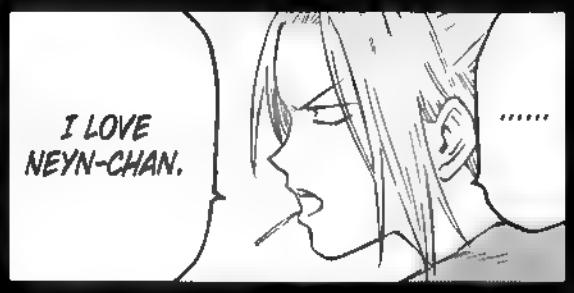
THE ONLY MAN ALIVE...
...WHO EVER MADE ME FEEL FEAR...



IT WAS FOURTEEN YEARS AGO...

GA (WHAM)
BAM!
OHH!
AW...

WHAT... NO, IT ISN'T THAT SIMPLE...
I MEAN, I LOVE BOTH OF YOU.
FINE. THEN LET'S HAVE NEYN-CHAN DECIDE WHO HER REAL HUSBAND IS.


I LOVE NEYN-CHAN.
.....

..... IS VERY DEAR TO ME TOO.
...AND MY WIFE...

WHICH ONE IS IT!?
I LIKE THAT HE'S LAID-BACK— IT'S RELAXING!
WHAT'S THERE TO LIKE ABOUT SUCH AN IRRESPONSIBLE, LAID-BACK MAN?
I LIKE THAT HE'S SERIOUS!
WHAT'S THERE TO LIKE ABOUT SUCH A GLOOMY, SERIOUS DUDE?

AS IF I COULD LIVE WITH HIM!?
UM...WELL, SINCE WE'RE HERE LIKE THIS ALREADY, WHY DON'T WE JUST ALL LIVE TOGETHER?
THEN GO BACK TO THE DEMON WORLD YOURSELF.
HELL NO!!
WE'VE BEEN GOING BACK AND FORTH LIKE THIS FOR DAYS!!
MAN, WE'RE NOT GETTING ANYWHERE.
GORO (ROLL) GORO
ゴロゴロ
—HEY... BELL!?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT ...
オッ (WHOO)
REVEAL THYTHELF, BLACK CURTAIN!
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE THAT AFFECTS OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE.
BESIDES, THIS ISN'T ONLY OUR PROBLEM...
BELL!!
DON (BAM)
WAIT FOR ME...
THITH WAY!
C'MON!

THIS IS A CAUSE FOR CONCERN MORE THAN PRAISE.
SHE SURE IS, DEAR!
AT HER AGE... SHE'S A PROD-IGY!!
DID YOU SEE THAT? SHE COPIED HOW I CALLED THE CURTAIN AND DID IT HERSELF!
EH?
I ♥
THAT WAS A SURPRISE ...
IT LED TO THE DEMON WORLD...
IT'S A GOOD THING WE CAUGHT THEM...
AND FUYUMI'S HUMAN. BUT SHE ALMOST WENT ALONG.
... BECAUSE IF WE HADN'T...
..... OH..... .....
I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND... WE CAN'T ALL LIVE TOGETHER...
HUMANS AND DEMONS...
...WE SIMPLY CAN'T RAISE BOTH OF THEM UNDER THE SAME ROOF, IN THE SAME WAY.

I WANT TO RAISE FUYUMI AS AN ORDINARY HUMAN.
SHE DOESN'T NEED ANY SPECIAL ABILITIES.
.....
I JUST WANT HER TO HAVE A NORMAL LIFE, IN AN APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT.
AND IF YOU... AREN'T ABLE...
...TO GIVE HER THAT ANYMORE...
...THEN I WILL RAISE FUYUMI BY MYSELF.

GAVE ME GOOSE BUMPS...
I ♥ NEYN
IF YOU MAKE HER UNHAPPY...
...I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET IT.
BUT HE PICKED HIS DAUGHTER'S FUTURE OVER HIS OWN COMFORT.
JARI (CRUNCH)
IT'S A LINE YOU'D NEVER HEAR IN THE DEMON WORLD, WHERE EVERYBODY JUST DOES THEIR OWN THING...
ZA
ZA STEP
ZA
EVEN THOUGH IT WASN'T LIKE HE WANTED TO LET ME HAVE HIS WIFE...
LOOKIN' LIKE HE WANTED TO CRY, HE SAID TO ME...

YOU FEEL ME?
IT WASN'T BECAUSE HE WAS FRONTING ...
...BUT RIGHT THEN, I GOT A CHILL ALL THE WAY THROUGH ME.
AND I'VE NEVER HAD AN ENEMY IN MY LIFE WHO SCARED ME...
THE SINCERITY OF HIS WORDS ...
...HIT ME RIGHT HERE.
I ♥ NEYN
?
SO ANSWER ME.

ドッ
DOGGYA (THWACK)
ギッ
WHY DO YOU WANNA BRING FUYUMI BACK TO LIFE?

SOON AS I HEARD THAT, I GOT IN TOUCH WITH HIM.
YANAGI WANTED TO RAISE FUYUMI AS AN ORDINARY HUMAN. BUT NOW SHE'S TURNED INTO A GHOST.
AND HE FED ME SOME CRAP LIKE "FUYUMI IS FINE. SHE WENT TO SCHOOL AS USUAL TODAY."
GEHO (COUGH)
SOME TRICK YOU PULLED, I BET.
DOMU (WHUD)
I LOOKED INTO IT TOO.
BWO (BLAST)
DOKA (WHAM)
RESUR-RECTION, THAT IS.

...
WHAT?
...
GARA (CLATTER)
I'VE BEEN LETTING YOU TALK...
ZUSHA (SHUMP)
...AND YOU JUST WANNA BEAT UP ON ME?
THE BEST THING IS TO BRING HER BACK TO LIFE AND SEND HER HOME SAFE AND SOUND...
...THOUGH I FIGURED YOU HAD THAT IN MIND TOO WHEN YOU PLAYED THAT TRICK ON YANAGI...
DID YOU ASK MY BROTHER ...
BE (POO)
...ABOUT WHAT I WANT?
YEAH ...
SAID YOU WANNA RESURRECT HER SO YOU CAN DRINK HUMAN FUYUMI'S BLOOD.....

SO, KID.
I'LL TELL YOU STRAIGHT.
OOO (ROOOAR)
THERE ISN'T A SINGLE DEMON WHO CAN BEAT ME IN HYDRA ON MY OWN TURF.
IT'D BE REALLY, REALLY EASY TO KILL YOU.
BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE DEMON IN THE WHOLE DEMON WORLD...
...WHO CAN BRING FUYUMI BACK THE WAY SHE WAS.

ドゴ

JAKIKII (SHIIING)

ガキキ

BRAZ WAS SAYING THAT HE'LL ONLY RESURRECT FUYUMI FOR YOU.

SO IF I KILL YOU, FUYUMI WON'T COME BACK TO LIFE...

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF I LET YOU LIVE...

...YOU STILL MEAN TO DRINK FUYUMI'S BLOOD AND KILL HER.

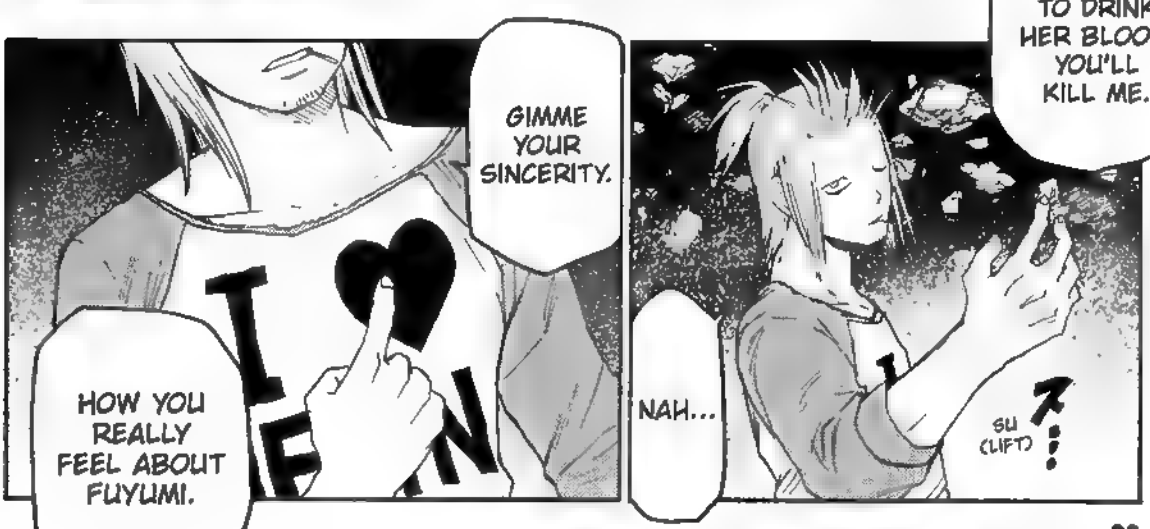
AND THAT'S YOU... STAZ.

シロ
JAKIKI
(SHIIING)

BRAZ WAS SAYING THAT HE'LL ONLY RESURRECT FUYUMI FOR YOU.
SO IF I KILL YOU, FUYUMI WON'T COME BACK TO LIFE...
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF I LET YOU LIVE...
...YOU STILL MEAN TO DRINK FUYUMI'S BLOOD AND KILL HER.
AND THAT'S YOU... STAZ.

BAKIIN
(SHATTER)

SO BASI-CALLY...
...YOU'RE SAYING THAT IF I WANT TO DRINK HER BLOOD, YOU'LL KILL ME.


GIMME YOUR SINCERITY.
HOW YOU REALLY FEEL ABOUT FUYUMI.
NAH...
SU (LIFT)

TRY AND HIT ME WITH IT. RIGHT HERE.
I'LL ASK YOU ONE MORE TIME...
WHY DO YOU WANT TO REVIVE FUYUMI?

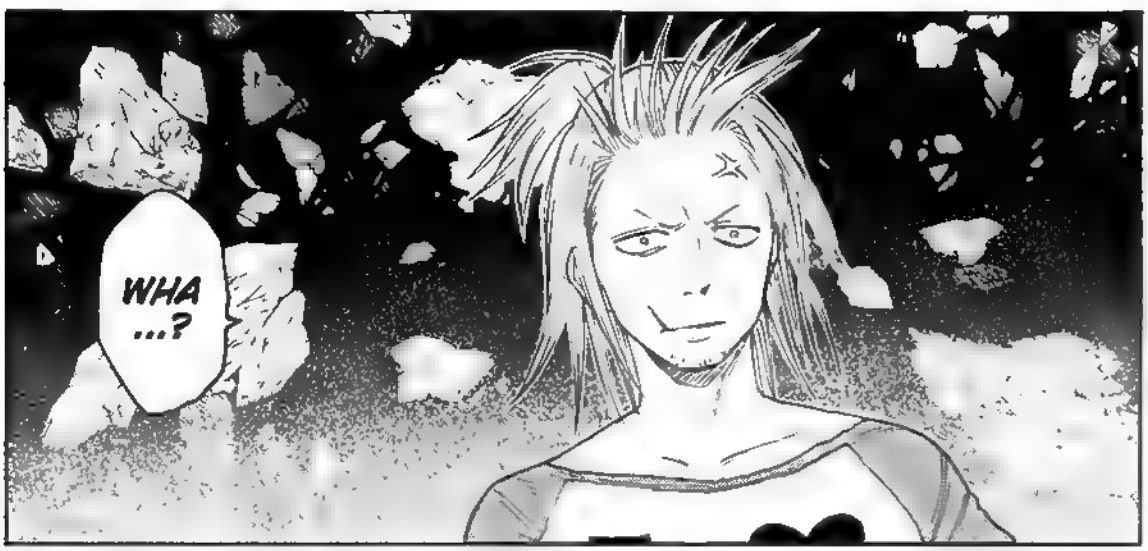
AH, THIS IS A LITTLE BETTER ...
BELL-SAN...
BY THE WAY... ER...
...WHERE IS STAZ-SAN...?
UM...THIS SHOULD COME RIGHT OUT WITH SOME DETERGENT ...
AND A LITTLE SCRUB-BING...
UGH... WHY DON'T WE HAVE ANYTHING THAT ISN'T MADE OF FRILLS...
OH, IT'S FINE. JUST LEAVE IT OVER THERE.
...HE HASN'T COME BACK, SO...
WELL, IT'S JUST ...
..... YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT HIM?
.....
FU...
FUYUMIN ...
YAWN
?
AHEM.

LEMME ASK YOU POINT-BLANK ...
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT STAZ?
HUH ...?

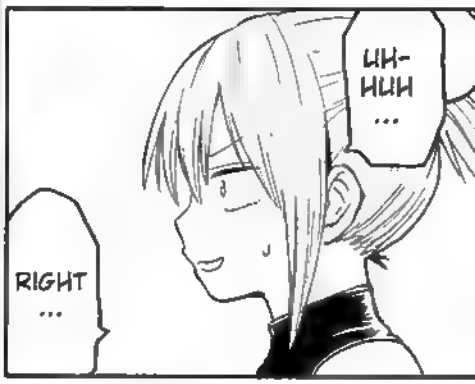
DO...
...D'YOU LIKE HIM?

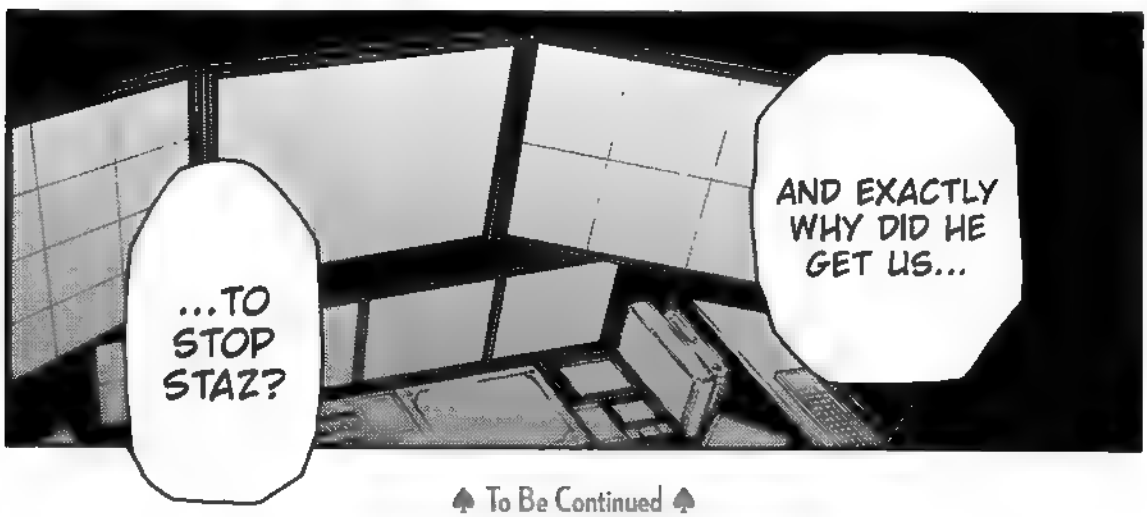
.....
UM...I DUNNO ...?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT...
...MY-SELF.


WHA ...?

I CAN'T HELP IT.
I SAID I DON'T KNOW BECAUSE I DON'T.
QUIT JERKIN' AROUND...YOU THINK A VAGUE ANSWER LIKE THAT IS GONNA SATISFY ME?
...NOW I DON'T REALLY KNOW ANY-MORE...
WELL, I THOUGHT SO AT FIRST, BUT...
BUT YOU WANNA DRINK HER BLOOD.
SO I DO THINK ABOUT HIM, BUT...
WELL...I MEAN, HE IS TRYING TO BRING ME BACK TO LIFE...
BUT YOU'RE THINKIN' ABOUT HIM...?
I'M SORRY ...
...I JUST DON'T KNOW...
WITHOUT BRINGING HER BACK TO LIFE...





♠ To Be Continued ♠

ACROPOLIS ICE CREAM

RARITY: ☆

IT SAYS "ACROPOLIS," BUT IT'S PERFECTLY ORDINARY ICE CREAM. CHOCOLATE CHIP AND MIXED BERRY ARE SAID TO BE POPULAR WITH CHILDREN.

BLOOD LAD

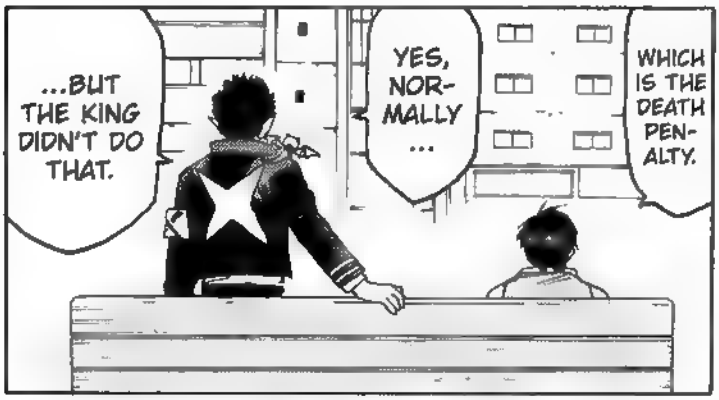
.....
.....
PLEASE WAKE UP, OFFICER BEROS.
OFFICER BEROS?
MM.....

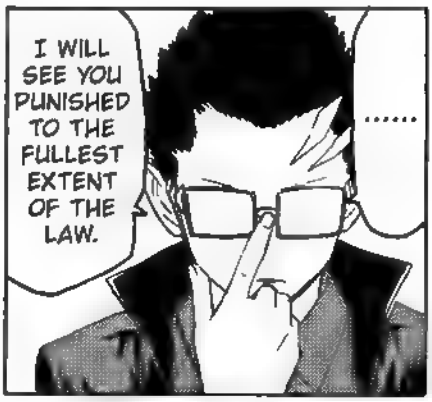
CHAPTER 29 ♠ A TINY ROOM OF CURSES AND OATHS

BLOODLAD

OFFI-
CER.
... HUH ...? I...
CAPTAIN GOYLE IS CALLING YOU.
PI (BEEP)
PRETTY MUCH DONE.
HOW ARE YOU DOING THERE?
.....?
GOSHI (SCRUB)
GOSHI
ALL RIGHT ...
Recovery operation complete.
HE SAYS TO GO TO ACROPOLIS CITY IMME-DIATELY...
...
PATAN (SNAP)

ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME...?


...BUT THE KING DIDN'T DO THAT.
YES, NORMALLY ...
WHICH IS THE DEATH PENALTY.


I WILL SEE YOU PUNISHED TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.
.....

AND WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN YOU FIND OUT?

WHY NOT ...?
THAT'S ALL I WANT TO KNOW...

I'LL RECTIFY THAT MISTAKE!

...THAT'S FUNNY.
HA HA...
...THAT WAS A LIE.
SU (RISE)
BY THE WAY...
...WHEN I TOLD YOU THAT I HAD NO QUARREL WITH THE KING...
I FIGURED.
DOKUN (BADMP)
WHAT HAPPENED IN THAT MOMENT ...
I CAN REMEMBER IT QUITE VIVIDLY EVEN NOW.

ドクン

DOKUN

ドクン

DOKUN

ドクン

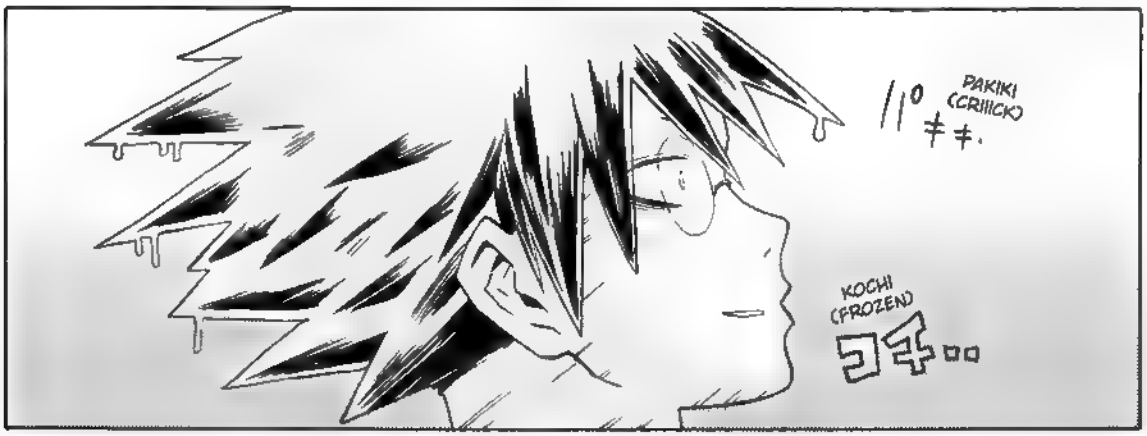
DOKUN

DOKUN
DOKU

IN HIS HAND ...
...HE HELD THE HEART OF THE KING.
IN THAT MOMENT, THE NEW KING WAS BORN...
... AND ...
...IN THAT MOMENT, MY FATHER DIED.

...IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE RECTIFIED ...
...IT BEGAN WITH THAT MOMENT.
SO...
...BUT WITH ANGRY SUBDUED, EVEN I COULD TAKE YOU NOW...
ZU (ZWM)
AND YOU'LL DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO STAND IN MY WAY...THAT CAN'T BE HELPED...
!
GA (GRAB)
WHAT ...!?

SPECIAL DISPEN-SATION NO. 2...
...COOL DECISION.
KAKIIN (SHASHING)


PAKIKI (CRIIICK)
KOCHI (FROZEN)

I ALWAYS USE ANGRY TO ATTACK...
...AND USE MY COOL HEAD TO DEFEND.
THAT POWER CAN ONLY TAKE EFFECT IF YOU TOUCH MY HEAD.
.....YOU SAVED ME SOME TROUBLE BY LIFTING A HAND AGAINST ME YOURSELF.
WE LEARN FROM THE PAST TO RECTIFY THE FUTURE, BRAZ.
AND THE THINGS THAT WE SHOULD RECTIFY ARE NEVER IN THE PAST.
HM?
キラン KIRAN (GLINT)
THEN SURELY WE CAN MAKE OUR WAY TO A SHINING FUTURE...
SHOULDN'T WE FIGURE IT OUT TOGETHER ...?

ゴオ
GOO
(WHOOSH)
トロ
TORO
(MELT)
WHA
...!?
ボゴゴオオ
BOGOOOO
(BABOOOM)

GASHAN (CLANK)
ZA (SCRAPE)
OOO (WHOOOO)
GET AWAY FROM MY BROTHER, YOU SPIKY JERK...!!

THIS ABILITY, I SEE, IS LINKED TO YOUR COMPOSURE ...
YOU MAY HAVE CAUGHT ME BY SURPRISE, BUT THIS IS JUST ANOTHER SIMPLE TRICK.
.....
PAKII (CRACK)
LIZ...
I'M GOING TO BUY SOME TIME.
GET READY TO TRANS-PORT US.
YES, BROTH-ER?
JAKI (SHNK)
GOT IT...

SFX: BIKI (POP) BIKI

SU
(SWISH)
DOLI
DOLI
(BWOOM)
DOLI
GO
GO
GO
GO
(RUMBLE)
帰還
ANGRY!

ドーン
DON (BOOM)
YAAH!!
ドゴゴゴ
オオオ
DOGOOOO (BABOOM)

BRAAAAZ!!
ミシュウウウ
SHUUUU (PWSHHH)
YAH!
GA (PUMP)
YOU'RE OVER THERE GOING "YAH!"...
...BUT WHERE'S BRAZ!?
?

LIZ ...?
.....
... THIS CAN'T ...
LIKE THAT OTHER TIME...
GASP!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SCREWING UP AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT!?
YOU IDIOT!!
...THAT I NEGLECTED TO LOOK OUT FOR LIZ...? OH NO...I...
GAKU
WAS... WAS I SO INVOLVED IN BRACING MYSELF AGAINST THAT ATTACK...
BECAUSE SHE GOT IN MY WAY RIGHT AT THE GOOD PART AND CALLED ME A SPIKY JERK...? OH NO...I...
GAKU (SLUMP)
...WAIT... WAS THIS MY FAULT...? DID THE TARGET OF MY ANGER SWITCH FROM BRAZ TO THIS CHILD...?
SHIO (SHRINK)
シオ シオ
SHIO

...I'VE DONE SOME-THING I CAN NEVER UNDO.

YAH!

I CAN CONTROL SPACE, BUT I STILL CAN'T TURN BACK TIME, Y'KNOW.
IT'S TOO LATE FOR REGRETS.
I ♥ NEYN

I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU I DON'T WANT TO DRINK HER BLOOD, EVEN IF IT'S A LIE?
SO, WHAT ...
NAH ...
I'M JUST SAYING YOU BETTER MAKE UP YOUR MIND.
WHAT THE HELL'S THAT?
?
=CRUSH=
SW (SWSH)
I'M MAKING SURE I'LL HAVE NO REGRETS.
PARA (CRUMBLE) PARA

HEY, THE SOUND GOT CUT OFF!
HEADS !?
WHAT JUST HAP-PENED?
POI (TOSS)
Can you hear me!?
ZA
ZA
ZA (STEP)
THIS DISCUSSION IS JUST BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.
EVEN NEYN-CHAN WON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT FROM NOW ON.
SO DON'T TELL ANYBODY ELSE.
PACHIN (SNAP)
I ♥ NEYN

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? YOU DIDN'T GIVE A RAT'S ASS ABOUT ALL MY MAGIC BEFORE...
"REGZA"? WHAT BRAND'S THAT?!
IS THIS FOR REAL?
BUT LOOK AT THIS TV! IT'S SO FREAKIN' THIN!!
IT'S BY TOSHIBA.
SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP.
MY ROOM.
WHOA— NOW WHERE ARE WE!?
YOU'RE KIDDING! IT'S TINY!!
THIS COZY LITTLE SPOT IS RELAXING AS ALL HELL.
I CAN MAKE AS MANY SPACIOUS ROOMS AS I WANT.
SHUT UP.
IT'S LIVE-ACTION!
YOU'RE PLAYING THAT!?
SIT. QUIET.
A GAME? THAT'S A VIDEO GAME!?
WAIT, WHAT, SERIOUSLY!?
AND LISTEN TO ME. WHILE YOU WATCH ME PLAY "UNCHARTED."
A MINUTE... JUST LET ME PLAY IT FOR A MINUTE WHEN YOU'RE DONE...
IF YOU LISTEN PROPER TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
ARE YOU FINALLY SETTLED DOWN?
ほー
HOO (DAZED)

...I'M THINKING I MIGHT LET YOU AND FUYUMI-CHAN GO, WITH A COUPLE CONDITIONS.
YOU LISTEN-ING? OKAY, THE TRUTH IS...
SFX: MOMI (KNEAD) MOMI
ドドド

WELL, THAT'S PRETTY STUPID...
WHY DOESN'T IT JUST SAY "OATH" ON IT...?
YOU EAT IT WHEN YOU SWEAR AN OATH, AND THEN IF YOU BREAK IT, YOU'LL BE CURSED.
OKAY, SO THERE IS A CURSE ...
A CURSED ONE.
I ♥
IT'S FINE! I SAID IT WAS MOSTLY HERBS!!
DID THAT THING JUST MOVE? WHAT THE...!?
... HEY!
WHO WOULD EVEN GO TO A SHOP CALLED...
MOJI (WRIGGLE)
ASK THE OLD HAG AT THE REAPER MARKET WHO MADE IT!

RIGHT. IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE.
YOU'RE GONNA SWEAR TO OBEY FUYUMI IN TWO INSTANCES.

...BUT IF IT GETS YOU, YOU'LL BE 100% DEAD.
ANYWAY, I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT THE CURSE ACTUALLY IS...
UH, DOESN'T THAT PRETTY MUCH TELL ME WHAT IT IS...?

OKAY, THIS SOUNDS TOTALLY SKETCHY, BUT...
... WHAT'S THE OATH...?

LET ME FINISH.
THAT'S THE DUMBEST THING I EVER HEARD.
PHYSICALLY.
IF SHE GAVE ME AN ORDER LIKE THAT, IT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE...
I'VE GOT A CRAVING.
OH, I KNOW. STAZ-SAN, COULD YOU FLY WITH THE POWER OF YOUR FARTS AND HOVER ALL THE WAY TO THE STORE TO BUY ME SOME RED BEAN TOFU?
GET IT? NOW LOOK AT THE DUMPLING AND LISTEN TO ME.
I SAID OBEY, BUT THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I MEAN.
ONE: STAZ, BEFORE YOU TAKE FUYUMI ANYWHERE...
...YOU WILL ASK HER PERMISSION, AND IF SHE GRANTS IT, ONLY THEN MAY YOU TAKE HER ALONG.
TWO: STAZ, WHEN YOU FIND THAT YOU WANT TO DRINK FUYUMI'S BLOOD...
...YOU WILL ASK HER PERMISSION, AND IF SHE GRANTS IT, ONLY THEN MAY YOU DRINK IT.

WILL YOU SWEAR IT?
WILL YOU SWEAR THIS?
I...I SWEAR! I SWEAR IT!!
WA— WAIT!
SIGH...
WHY CAN'T YOU EVEN SWEAR TO DO SOMETHING YOU SHOULD BE DOING ANYWAY?
NOW EAT UP.
BAMO (STUFF)
GOOD.

ボヤ～～～～ッ
BOYAA (HAZY)
ユラ…
YURA
ユラ…
YURA (FLICKER)
……
TAZ…
STAZ
……

KAAA (SHIIINE)
YOU ARE INDEED A MAN AMONG MEN...
YOU HAVE SWORN YOUR OATH WELL, STAZ...
...AND THAT YOU KNOW ONE ANOTHER'S FEELINGS... AND ACT ACCORD-INGLY...
WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU BOTH WISH FOR IT...

STAZ
...
...IF YOU BREAK YOUR OATH—I CANNOT BE SPECIFIC, BUT YOU WILL DIE...
FALSETTO
...BUT YOU MUST TAKE CARE...
UH...YES... I UNDERSTOOD THAT, MA'AM...
MAYBE WRITING "CURSE" ON IT WAS TOO MUCH...
WELL... I GUESS THAT DOES IT.
ZZz
SHOOM!
THEN ALL IS WELL... BYE, NOW...
THAT THING WAS ACTUALLY JUST A SLEEP DUMPLING ...
...BUT I PUT ON ENOUGH OF A SHOW FOR HIM TO BUY IT...

...WHILE I'M BASICALLY GOING BEHIND NEYN-CHAN'S BACK...
ズズズ
ZU (SINK) ZU ZU
HERE I AM TELLING STAZ TO RESPECT OTHERS' FEELINGS...
MAN, LOOK AT ME.
BORI ボリ BORI (SCRATCH)
NOW I'VE GOT MY OWN PROBLEMS ...
I ♥ NEYN
ZUBUBU (BLUBUB)
ズブブ...
...NEYN-CHAN TO RESPECT MY FEELINGS ...
ズズズ ZU ZU
BUT THIS TIME, I JUST WANT...
ズ
ZUDA (LAND)

♠ To Be Continued ♠

SLEEP DUMPLING
RARITY:
FOR THOSE IN THE KNOW...AN HERB DUMPLING FROM THE DEMON WORLD DISCOUNT SHOP, REAPER MARKET. WHOEVER EATS IT IS CERTAIN TO FALL ASLEEP, BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK OR TASTE VERY GOOD, SO IT'S NOT EASY TO GET ANYONE TO EAT IT.

BLOOD LAD

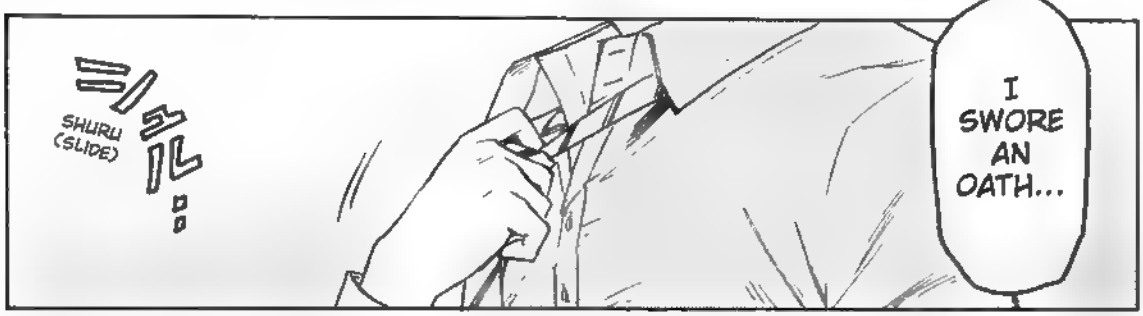
CHAPTER 30 ♠ THE ANTIHERO

.....
ACTUALLY... WHERE IS HERE...?
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?
WHAT A RELIEF...YOU WERE COLLAPSED LIKE THAT WITH YOUR EYES ROLLED BACK AND YOU WERE DROOLING, AND I THOUGHT YOU MUST BE DEAD.
PHEW!
...FUYUMI?
...DOESN'T IT?
IT LOOKS LIKE THE ENTRANCE ...
OH MAN, WHAT WAS IT CALLED? "UN-SOME-THING"?
WELL, I DON'T KNOW. I JUST GOT HERE...
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?
HUH? THEN WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT GAME WITH THE CRAZY AWESOME GRAPHICS? I DIDN'T GET TO PLAY IT YET!

.....
AND...
...I WAS KIND OF IN THE MIDDLE OF CHANGING MY CLOTHES ...
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
.....
FUYU-MIN?
SHAA (SLIDE)
...
HOW'S IT FIT, FUYU-MIN?

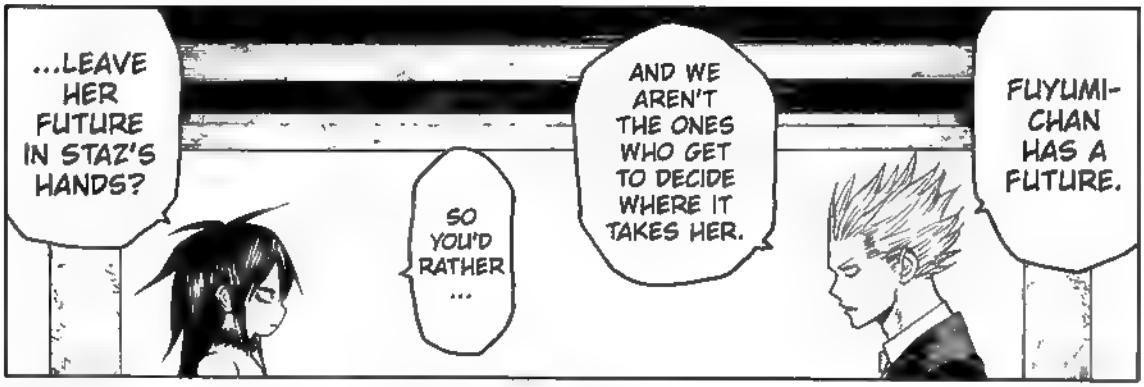
...AND YOU WERE ON THE GROUND IN FRONT OF ME...
...AND THEN, WHEN I LOOKED UP, HERE I WAS...
I KNOW I WAS JUST IN THE DRESSING ROOM...
OH. YEAH. AND I WAS JUST IN THIS SUPER-TINY ROOM...
...AND I ENDED UP EATING THIS SUPER-GROSS DUMPLING...

W-WAIT— ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT...!?
...THIS SUPER-HUGE GOD.....
AND THEN I MET...
NO, I'M NOT...


SHURU (SLIDE)
I SWORE AN OATH...

FROM NOW ON...
...YOU GET TO DECIDE THINGS.
?
HUH?
THAT'S ...
...QUITE A PUSHY WAY OF DOING THINGS, HEADS...

SO...
...NOW THAT YOU'VE TOSSED THE TWO OF THEM AT THE GATE, THEN WHAT?
I FEEL BAD FOR HER, RUNNING ABOUT WITH NO CLOTHES.
DIDN'T THEY NEED...
...A LITTLE MORE TIME TO GET READY BEFORE WE LET THEM MEET?
NOT A LOT OF OPTIONS WITH THE TIMING.
I DIDN'T WANT BELL TO FIGURE IT OUT EITHER.
WELL, I WOULDN'T HAVE THAT KINDA TIME ONCE YOU FOUND OUT, WOULD I?
THINK ABOUT IT, NEYN-CHAN...
YOU OUGHT TO THINK...
...ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IF YOU GO THROUGH WITH THIS.
ARE YOU GOING TO HELP THEM ESCAPE, I WONDER?


...LEAVE HER FUTURE IN STAZ'S HANDS?
SO YOU'D RATHER ...
AND WE AREN'T THE ONES WHO GET TO DECIDE WHERE IT TAKES HER.
FUYUMI-CHAN HAS A FUTURE.

I'M SAYING WE HAVE TO LET FUYUMI-CHAN DECIDE HER OWN FUTURE!
NO!!

ISN'T IT A PARENT'S JOB TO PROTECT THEIR CHILD FROM WALKING INTO DANGER!?
AND WHAT IF THAT GETS HER KILLED?

THEN THAT'S NOT OUR JOB!

THE ONLY PARENT SHE HAS...
...IS YANAGI ...!
NEYN-CHAN!
BUT HE... COULDN'T PROTECT HER...

.....
IT'S MINE ...
THAT'S NOT YANAGI'S FAULT!
FUYUMI IS IN THE DEMON WORLD...
I HAD TO SHOW OFF...
...MY POWER IN FRONT OF THE KING...NO, IN FRONT OF HIM...
110 PACHI PACHI 110
110 PACHI (CLAP) 110 PACHI

WOW, THAT'S REALLY COOL.
I THOUGHT YOU DISAPPEARED OVER THERE AND THEN YOU CAME BACK OVER HERE!
THANK YOU FOR SHOWING ME SUCH A NEAT TRICK, HEADS-SAN.
HM...?
OH, YOU'RE WEL-COME...
..... SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, HEADS...
NO TROUBLE AT ALL, SIRE.
..... THEN...
...SHALL I SEND HIM TO THE HUMAN WORLD? THOUGH HE DOESN'T SEEM INTERESTED IN LETTING GO OF MY HAND...
NO, THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT ANY-MORE.

?
PANTO-MIME!
YES, I'M DONE.
PA (RELEASE)
HEY...
LET'S SEE, IT GOES LIKE THIS, RIGHT?
!
WHAT'RE YOU...
CHECK IT OUT.
BUT THIS TIME, I'LL HAVE HIM USE IT.
HEADS... IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T TRUST YOU...

WHAT FOR...?
OH MY, IT'S LIKE I'VE GROWN TALLER.
HE'S ONLY MIMICKING IT.
NO...
...DID HE JUST... STEAL MY MAGIC...!?
JUST A LITTLE ERRAND I DON'T WANT ON THE BOOKS, Y'KNOW.
SORRY, THAT'S TOP SECRET.
...THIS DOESN'T LEAVE THIS ROOM.
I WON'T DO ANYTHING TO CAUSE YOU TROUBLE.
DON'T WORRY... ONCE IT'S DONE, I WON'T LET HIM USE THAT POWER ANYMORE.
I'M SURE IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, BUT...

THEN WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME?
IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT...
HEADS ...
ARE YOU REALLY HUNG UP ON THAT...?
BUT I...
THE KING ORDERED YOU NOT TO...
BUT YOU'VE BEEN BLAMING YOURSELF ALL THIS TIME, HAVEN'T YOU...?
YOU WERE JUST OBEYING THE KING... AND YOU DIDN'T KNOW...YOU HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.

SO YOU LET FUYUMI GO...
...TO ESCAPE FROM YOUR OWN GUILT, DIDN'T YOU?
FINE ...
IF IT MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER...
...DO AS YOU LIKE...
... BUT ...

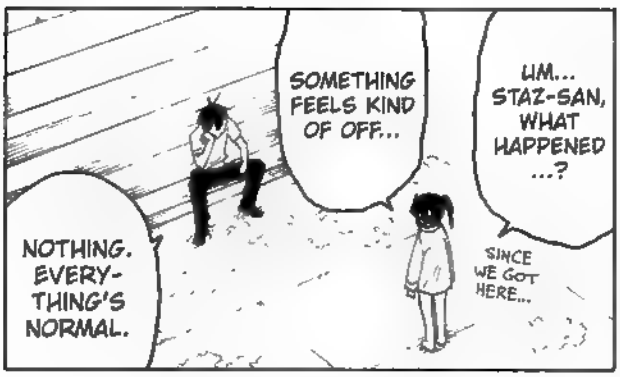
...THE TRUTH IS, I'VE ALREADY MADE MY MOVE...
!
YOU AREN'T PLANNING ON KIDNAPPING FUYUMI AGAIN...ARE YOU...?
WHY WOULD I...? THAT WOULD JUST HAVE US GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES.
THIS TIME, I'VE HIRED PROFES-SIONALS...

THERE ARE PLENTY OF ASSASSINS IN THE DEMON WORLD...
...BUT THESE ARE THE BEST OF THE BEST.
EXPERT KILLERS WHO EVEN HANDLE HITS ON NOBLE DEMONS.

TEAM FEARLESS.
ALSO KNOWN AS THE VAMPIRE HUNTERS.

...YOU WANT...
...TO KILL STAZ ...!?
OF COURSE... THE HUNTERS WILL CERTAINLY TRY...
SINCE THAT IS WHAT I ASKED THEM TO DO.
YOU SURE DO HAVE A WAY OF MAKING THINGS INTERESTING ...
DO I?

YEAH... BECAUSE NOW THOSE TWO WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE THEIR FUTURE...
...WITHOUT KNOWING ABOUT THAT DANGER...



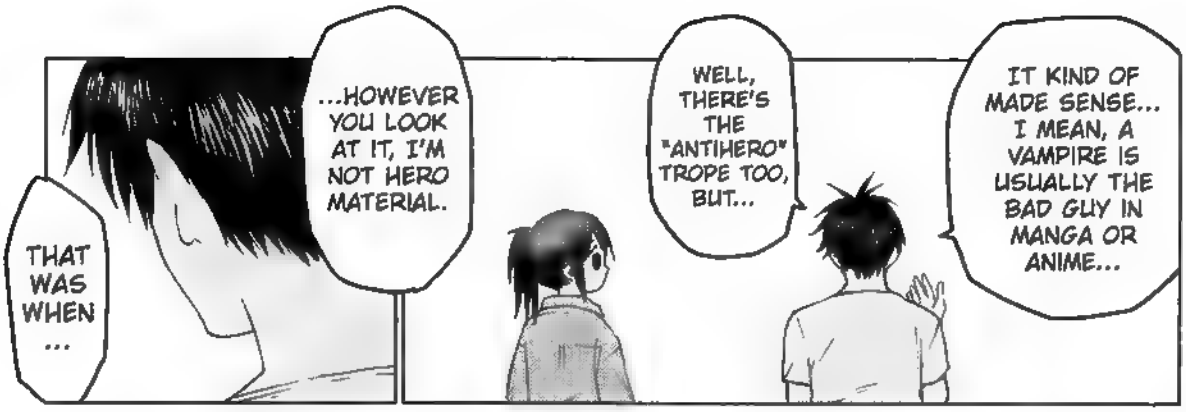
LOOK, YOU'RE TWITCHING BECAUSE YOU'RE USING MUSCLES YOU NEVER USE!
THAT'S MEAN... I'M THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
LIKE HOW YOU'RE TRYING WAY TOO HARD TO SOUND NICE.
NO, YOU'RE DEFINITELY ACTING STRANGELY.

SFX: HIKU (TWITCH) HIKU

C'MON, LET ME ASK MY QUESTION.
YOU CAN ASK IT WHEN YOU START ACTING NORMAL AGAIN...
IF YOU WERE IN THE SERVICE INDUSTRY, YOU'D BE FIRED ON THE SPOT WITH A SMILE LIKE THAT!!
BY THE WAY, FUYUMI-SAN, I'VE GOT ONE FAVOR TO ASK YOU...WELL, THAT IS, IT'S A QUESTION...
NIKOO (SMILE)
ニコォ

BOTTOM LINE...DO YOU WANT TO COME BACK TO LIFE?
I SEE... WHAT IS IT?
.....
WELL... OKAY, LEMME START WITH A PRACTICE RUN...I MEAN, NOT THE REAL THING...
WELL... IF I CAN...
.....
DON'T SAY YOU WANT TO BECAUSE I'M WORKING HARD FOR IT OR WHATEVER!
ARGH! NO, THAT'S NOT IT!
I MEAN, YOU'RE GOING THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE FOR MY SAKE, SO...
.....?
I'M ASKING IF...IF YOU REALLY WANT IT FOR YOURSELF!

IT'S JUST BEEN ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER FOR YOU.
...AND THEN I LEFT YOU ALONE AT A BAD TIME, AND YOU STARTED DISAPPEARING ...YOU GOT KIDNAPPED...
I JUST BUSTED OUT AND SAID I WOULD REVIVE YOU, AND I'VE BEEN DRAGGING YOU ALL OVER THE PLACE...
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT...
I MEAN ... LIKE ...
... SHUT UP.
I'M SURPRISED ...
SO YOU REALIZED ALL THAT ON YOUR OWN...?
AND THEN ...
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
.....
RIGHT... AND THEN, I REALIZED I'M THE BAD GUY...
AH, WHAT WAS I TRYING TO SAY...?
AND THEN ...
YOU CAN TAKE YOUR TIME.
WAIT, JUST A SECOND, I'LL THINK OF IT...


IT KIND OF MADE SENSE... I MEAN, A VAMPIRE IS USUALLY THE BAD GUY IN MANGA OR ANIME...
WELL, THERE'S THE "ANTIHERO" TROPE TOO, BUT...
...HOWEVER YOU LOOK AT IT, I'M NOT HERO MATERIAL.
THAT WAS WHEN ...

...SOMEONE TOLD ME A STORY...
...ABOUT THIS HERO IN THE HUMAN WORLD.

ACTUALLY, SINCE I'M THE BAD GUY, I USED MY MIND CONTROL SPRAY ON THAT HERO, BUT ANYWAY...
WHA ...?
AND THEN I UNDER-STOOD ...
...WHY I'M THE VILLAIN...
...AND WHAT I'M LACKING ...
AND THE ANSWER IS...
...FUYUMI... IF YOU DO WANT TO COME BACK TO LIFE...

...I CAN BECOME THE HERO.

...THEN, JUST FOR YOU...

WHA.....?

HUH?

...THEN, JUST FOR YOU...

...I CAN BECOME THE HERO.

WHA .....?
HUH?

WH... WHERE DID THAT COME FROM!?
OH, C'MON ALREADY ...
DO YOU WANT TO COME BACK TO LIFE OR NOT!?
I-I DO...?
WANT TO...?
C'MON, SOUND MORE SURE ABOUT IT!!
SAY IT LOUDER!
WHAT, WHY!? OH... HONESTLY!
C'MON, JUST TRY AND SAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT!
.....
...IT'S MAKING ME THINK.

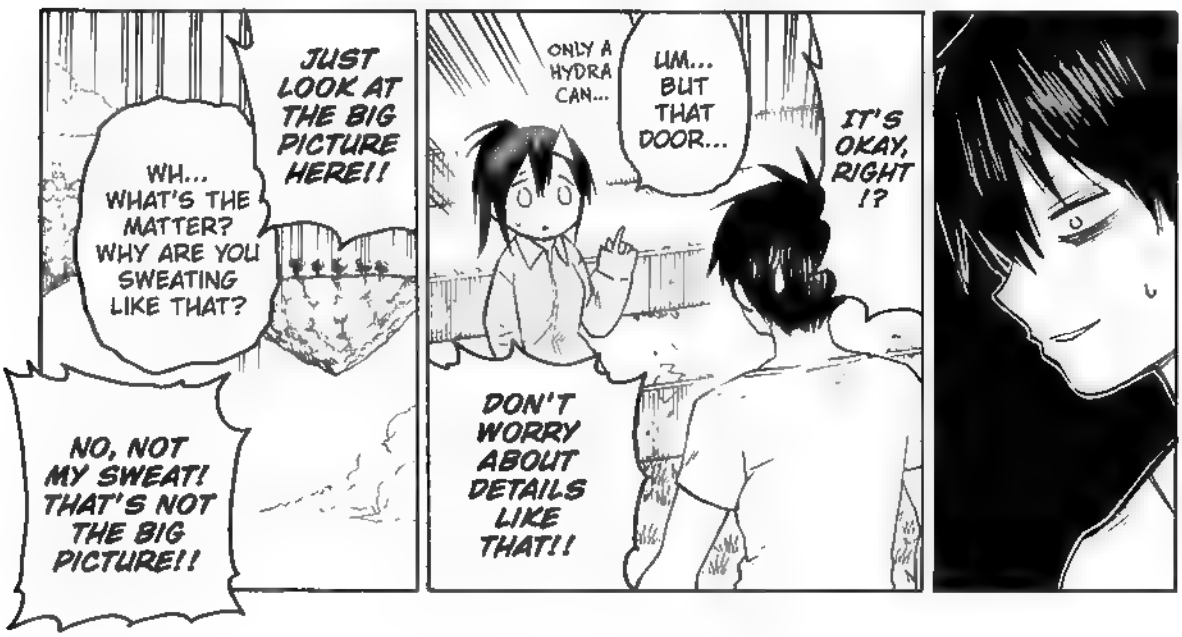
I... FINALLY GOT TO SEE MY MOM...
...BUT I'M WONDERING IF MY DAD HAS BEEN GETTING A PROPER BREAKFAST ...
...OR IF THE LAUNDRY'S PILING UP...
...OR IF...HE'S LONELY WITHOUT ME...
I'M DEAD... AND I'M A DEMON...
SO I PROBABLY BELONG HERE NOW, BUT...
ALL THOSE THINGS JUST POP INTO MY HEAD...
ISN'T IT WEIRD ...?
...STAZ-SAN, I...
...I DO WANT... TO COME BACK TO LIFE...

SFX: DO (DUM) DO DO DO DO DO

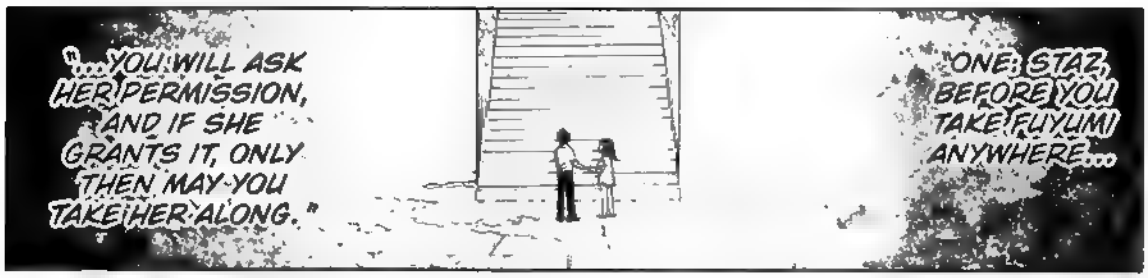
...I LEAVE BEHIND THE PATH OF EVIL AND SELF-INTEREST...
YES, IN THIS MO-MENT ...
...TO BECOME AN ANTIHERO WHO FIGHTS FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS!
...THAT WISH OF YOURS COME TRUE!
HOO-HA-HA-HA-HA! I SHALL MAKE...
..... WHA ...?
I'LL REVIVE YOU BECAUSE YOU WANT TO COME BACK TO LIFE! THAT'S HOW THE FLOWCHART GOES!!
AND NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO REVIVE YOU!
DOON (DUUUUM)

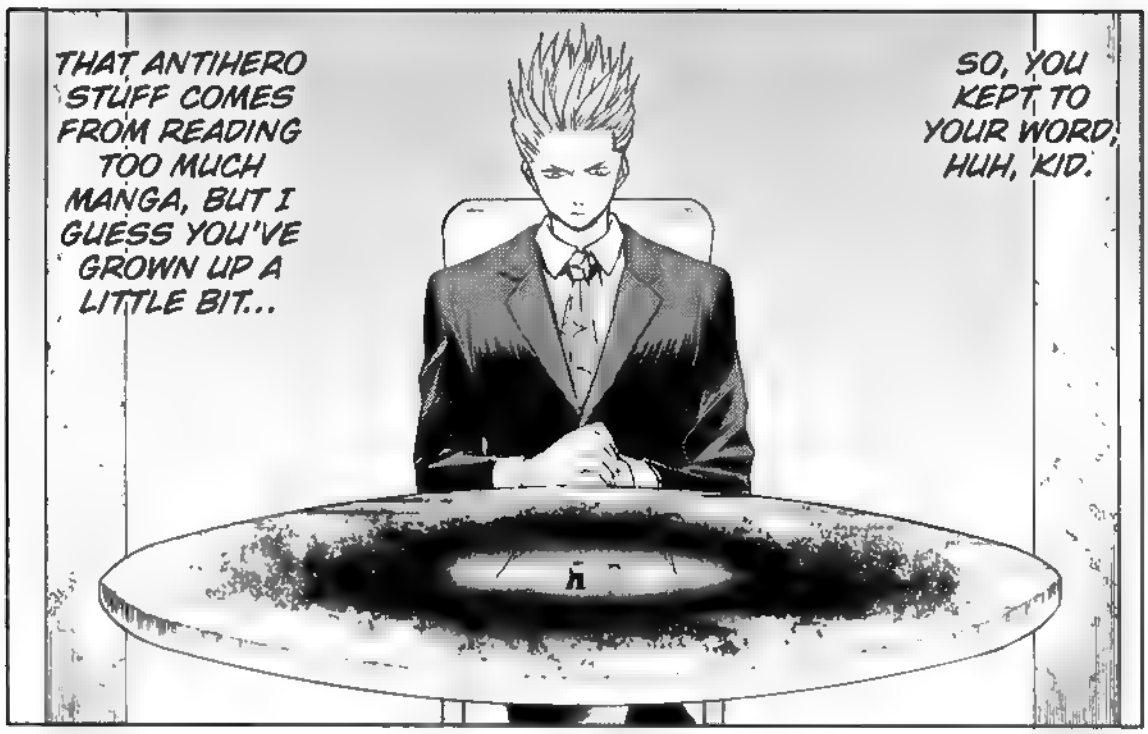
AND NOW FOR THE ACTUAL QUESTION.
TO MAKE YOUR WISH COME TRUE, I'M TRYING TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
SU (SWSH)

.....
THAT OKAY WITH YOU?


JUST LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE HERE!!
WH... WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU SWEATING LIKE THAT?
NO, NOT MY SWEAT! THAT'S NOT THE BIG PICTURE!!
ONLY A HYDRA CAN...
UM... BUT THAT DOOR...
IT'S OKAY, RIGHT!?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT DETAILS LIKE THAT!!

THE ANTIHERO ALMOST DIED A MINUTE AFTER HIS BIRTH!
THEN WHY COULDN'T YOU JUST SAY SO!?
UM... I REALLY HAD NO IDEA WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT WITH THAT...
Y-YES! IT'S OKAY! I HAVE MUCH MORE OF A PROBLEM WITH THAT FACE YOU'RE MAKING, SO PLEASE STOP!
DAKU (SWEAT)
DAKU
SO, IT'S OKAY, RIGHT ...?
HIKU (TWITCH)

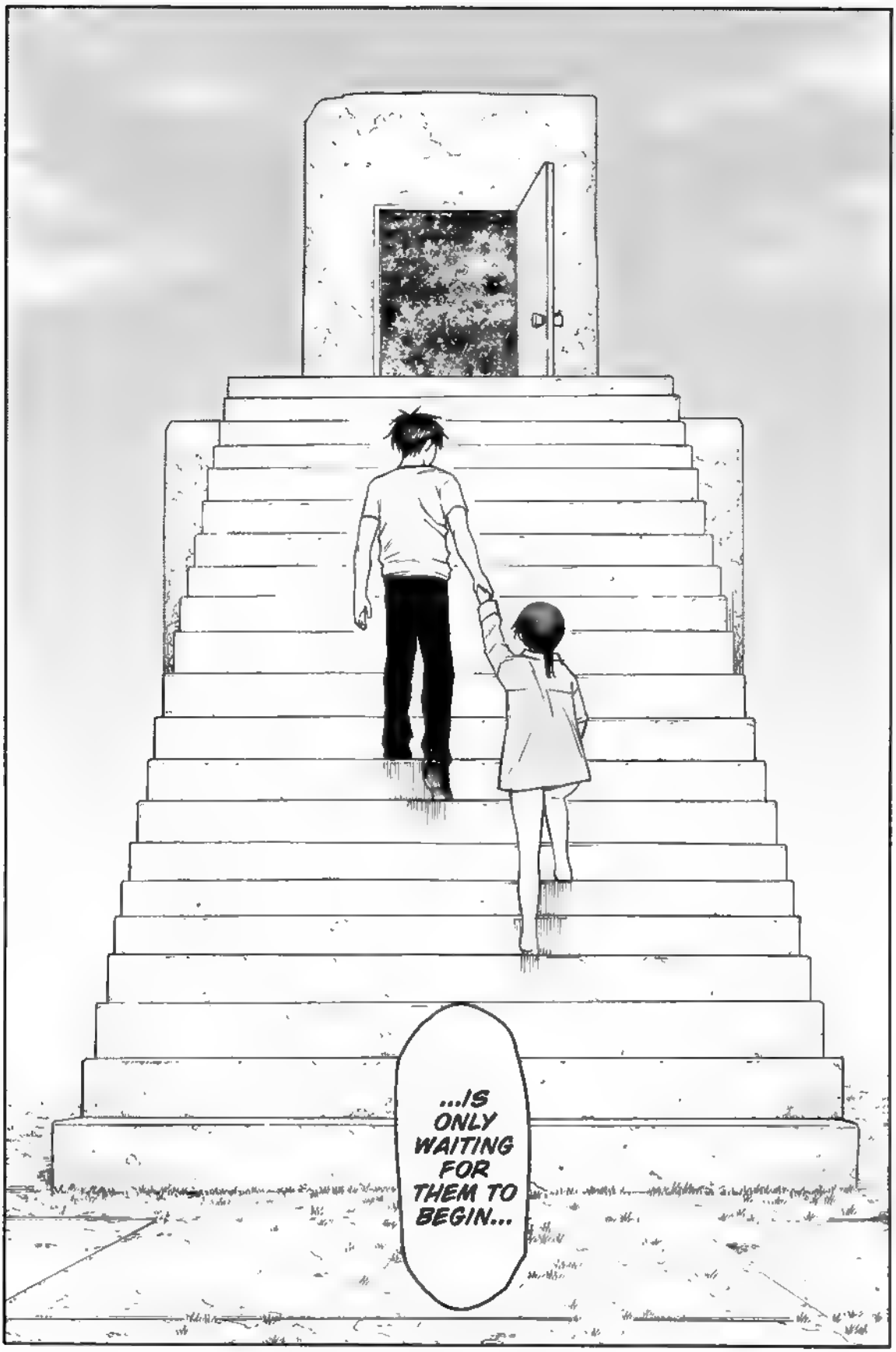

"...YOU WILL ASK HER PERMISSION, AND IF SHE GRANTS IT, ONLY THEN MAY YOU TAKE HER ALONG."
"ONE: STAZ, BEFORE YOU TAKE FUYUMI ANYWHERE...


THAT ANTIHERO STUFF COMES FROM READING TOO MUCH MANGA, BUT I GUESS YOU'VE GROWN UP A LITTLE BIT...
SO, YOU KEPT TO YOUR WORD, HUH, KID.

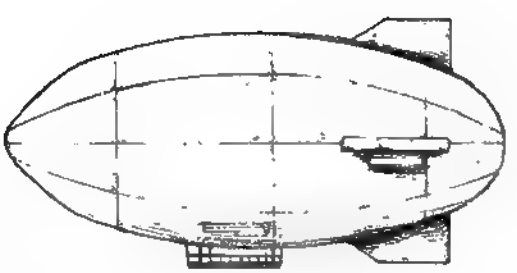
...MIGHT BE TOO CRUEL AN ORDEAL FOR YOU.
BUT WHAT LIES ON THE PATH AHEAD...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO BECOME A TRUE HERO...
TO MAKE YOUR CASE TO FUYUMI'S FIERCEST PROTECTOR HERE...
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU (ZMM)
...STAZ, AND NOT ME?
SHOULDN'T YOU BE ASKING...
... SURE ABOUT THIS?
ARE YOU REALLY ...
YOUR LIFE'S DEPENDING ON IT, KID.

Staz and Fuyumi are about to leave Hydra

SCREEN: COMPOSE MESSAGE
MESSAGE SENT
CONTACTING THOSE ASSASSINS ALREADY?
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW HE RESPONDS ...
メール作成
送信しました
...I TOOK CARE OF THAT A WHILE AGO.
WHY, I THOUGHT I MENTIONED...
ゴォォ
GOOO (WHOOSH)
EVERYTHING IS ALREADY IN PLACE.
TEAM FEARLESS
THE VAMPIRE HUNT...
OOO (WHOOO)



♠ To Be Continued ♠



To Be Continued

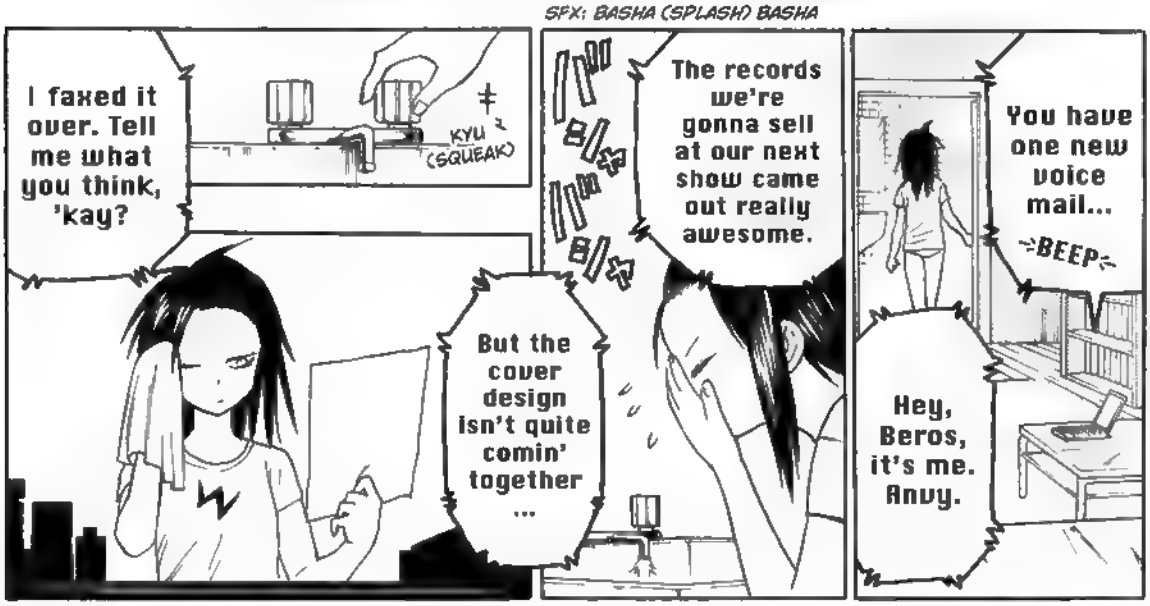
BLOOD LAD

LIVING IN THE DEMON WORLD

BEROS'S EVERYDAY LIFE

JUST WAKING UP, SHE'S BARELY RECOG-NIZABLE.
PI (BEEP) PI
...BEROS-SAN, WHO WE... WHAT IS THAT THING? IT'S AWFULLY NOISY.
ドドドドド DO DO DO DO (DOO)
THIS TIME, IT'LL BE A POLICE OFFICER OF DEMON WORLD ACROPO-LIS...
APPAR-ENTLY, IT'S HER ALARM CLOCK.
KACHI (CLICK)

SFX: BASHA (SPLASH) BASHA


I faxed it over. Tell me what you think, 'kay?
KYU (SQUEAK)
But the cover design isn't quite comin' together ...
The records we're gonna sell at our next show came out really awesome.
You have one new voice mail...
BEEP
Hey, Beros, it's me. Anvy.

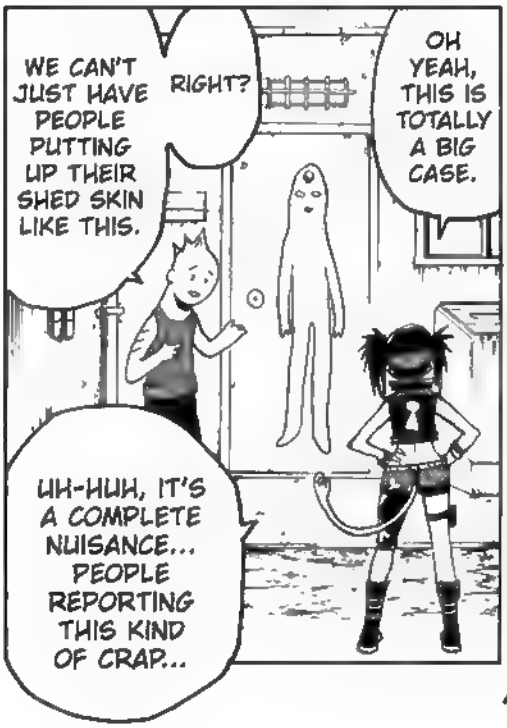
IT'S PRETTY COOL, I THINK.
... ER ...
YOU'RE BEING SARCASTIC, RIGHT, SIR?

EVIL Potato
.....

WHY ARE YOU ASKING YOUR BOSS FOR ADVICE ABOUT YOUR SIDE JOB...?
I MEAN, WHY'S THE GUY HOLDING AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR?
WE'RE A HARD-CORE BAND, Y'KNOW?
IT WOULD SEEM THAT SHE HAS SOME EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

SHE OFTEN DECIDES THINGS ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT STUFF.

DON'T BE SILLY! FOR ONE THING, I'VE GOT PILES OF WORK TO DO...
YOU COULD EDIT THIS SO IT LOOKS MORE HARD-CORE.
WELL, CAPTAIN, YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD WITH COMPUTERS AND STUFF...


WE CAN'T JUST HAVE PEOPLE PUTTING UP THEIR SHED SKIN LIKE THIS.
RIGHT?
OH YEAH, THIS IS TOTALLY A BIG CASE.
UH-HUH, IT'S A COMPLETE NUISANCE... PEOPLE REPORTING THIS KIND OF CRAP...

ARGH! WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS!!
AND THIS FILE...
UHH... SO THIS GOES ON THIS SHELF...
AND SHE SOON ENDS UP REGRETTING IT.

THAT'S WHY I'M SAYIN' I WANNA TALK TO THE USUAL GUY!
SHUT IT, OCTOPUS! GET OUTTA HERE!
SHAA (HISS)
I SAID I DON'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT THAT!

HMM ... WELL ...
IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF ...
SO, YOU ABOUT DONE WITH IT, CAPTAIN?
...IN THE END, SHE GETS EVERYTHING DONE, EVEN IF SHE COMPLAINS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.
UGH ...
THAT TOOK FRICKIN' FOREVER ...
BUT ...
バタン
BATAN (SLAM)
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I TRIED TO THINK... "HARD-CORE."
I GUESS THE FLAMES MAKE SENSE, BUT...
WHY'S HE HOLDING A WHIP NOW!?
EVIL Potato
AH HAH HAH HAH!
I THINK IT TURNED OUT PRETTY GOOD...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HARD-CORE IMAGE...?
THINK YOU COULD DRAW SOME GLASSES ON IT TOO?
OH MAN, IT'S GREAT! IT REALLY EXPRESSES YOUR DARK INTROSPECTIVE SIDE, CAPTAIN!
GOTTA TELL YA, MY BOSS IS PRETTY RAD!
WHATCHA THINK!? PRETTY GOOD, HUH!
...THAT DAY, WHEN SHE SHOWED IT TO HER BAND-MATES...
IT'S NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS DESIGN WAS ACTUALLY USED, BUT...
ジーッ JIII (WHIRR)
...SHE WAS QUITE ENTHU-SIASTIC.
C'MON, LET'S GO WITH IT!!
END

BLOOD LAD 6

These images appeared under the jacket of the original edition of *Blood Lad*!

AND YET YOU JUST HAD TO COME AND SEE IT— MY AWESOME APPLE-PEELING SKILLS.
AW, MAN...
AWWW, IT'S YOU. DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO LOOK THIS TIME?
SHHK!
SHHK!

...I'LL ADMIT, I THOUGHT I WENT A BIT OVERBOARD LAST TIME...
... WELL ...
YEAH...
MNCH...

BLOOD LAD 6

YUUKI KODAMA

Translation: Melissa Tanaka

Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

BLOOD LAD Volume 6 © Yuuki KODAMA 2012. Edited by KADOKAWA SHOTEN. First published in Japan in 2012 by KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo. English translation rights arranged with KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo, through TUTTLE-MORI AGENCY, INC., Tokyo.

Translation © 2013 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

Application Copyright © 2010 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

All rights reserved. In accordance with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, the scanning, uploading, and electronic sharing of any part of this book without the permission of the publisher is unlawful piracy and theft of the author's intellectual property. If you would like to use material from the book (other than for review purposes), prior written permission must be obtained by contacting the publisher at permissions@hbgusa.com. Thank you for your support of the author's rights.

Yen Press
Hachette Book Group
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

www.HachetteBookGroup.com
www.YenPress.com

Yen Press is an imprint of Hachette Book Group, Inc.
The Yen Press name and logo are trademarks of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

The publisher is not responsible for websites (or their content) that are not owned by the publisher.

First Yen Press ebook Edition: May 2013

ebook ISBN: 978-0-316-32222-5

App: ISBN: 978-0-316-32221-8